

# DC Gazette

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**WHO CARES ABOUT  
THE FAMILY?**

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**Naming the Area**

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# Weather Report



The Environmental Protection Agency has solved the problem of cancer-causing substances. It's going to stop mentioning them. The EPA's chief spokesman, Byron Nelson, says from now on his agency will avoid the term "cancer-causing," because it's been overused "by maverick scientists, environmentalists and public interest groups who want to scare the public."

Snipping aid to pregnant teenagers and young mothers from the federal budget may wind up costing the taxpayer a lot more, according to a study by the city of New York. The study found that while direct assistance to pregnant women will decrease, young mothers affected by those cuts will turn for help to other government programs, such as welfare, food stamps, or medicaid. According to the report, "For every dollar spent on family planning, three dollars are saved for other programs. "Every day-care dollar lost will generate virtually the same increase in entitlement programs."

As a wave of protest against Soviet and US nuclear strategies sweeps across Europe, Europeans increasingly are wondering why Americans do not appear to share their concern. An effort now is under way in California which may, in fact, put that concern to the test. December 1 was the starting date for signature-gathering throughout California on a petition calling for a mutual "freeze" on nuclear weapons by both the United States and the Soviet Union. The aim is collect half a million vote signatures within 150 days in order to qualify this measure for inclusion as an initiative on the November 1982 ballot. A carefully planned campaign to rally support through volunteers has been developed, centered largely around religious organizations and churches, universities and women's groups, together with scientists and physicians. -- Mary Ellen Leary, PNS.

The former president of the American Psychiatric Association says a "pathological mechanism of denial" is keeping Americans from thinking about the implications of nuclear war. And, says Dr. Judd Marmor, that is only one of several psychological factors that are increasing the probability of a catastrophic world war. People in all countries, he says, are being conditioned to

accept the arms race, view their adversaries as totally evil and think of nuclear destruction in terms of statistics -- death tolls and damage estimates -- which depersonalize the danger. A new peace movement, Marmor, says, could reverse the drift toward nuclear war, but it won't be easy for today's statesmen to lead the way. In Marmor's view, leaders in both the US and Russia "have been altogether too successful" in selling the idea of nuclear war as the only guarantee of their national way of life. Now, they risk being branded traitors, Marmor says, for pointing out "you can't have a way of life if you're dead."

Since Ronald Reagan's election, the National Women's Political Caucus has gained 5000 new members. Says NOW chair Kathy Wilson, "I think in some ways Ronald Reagan has given us a gift. In past administrations, where you had some semblance of work to involve women, you had more difficulty mobilizing women because they felt they were being treated fairly and being given an opportunity to participate. That is no longer the case."

Abortion opponents could win half their battle if they promoted contraception. A study by Charles Westoff of the Office of Population Research at Princeton predicts that if women who have abortions adopted contraceptive methods the number of abortions could be cut by 50 percent. The study used a sample of more than 4000 abortion patients from 15 major hospitals and clinics in Illinois where information on contraception was available to the general public. It found that only 13 percent of women at risk used no birth control compared to 60 percent of the abortion patients.

Before Ronald Reagan rides off to conquer world communism, he might be interested to know that the world's largest communist bloc is headquartered in Washington DC. That startling revelation comes from I. F. Stone, who points out that five communist nations (China, Poland, Cambodia, Somalia and Yugoslavia) now look to the United States for protection. Moscow controls twice as many communist governments, but thanks to China we have two-thirds of the world's communists under our wing. Stone also points

out the United States is a lot more lenient with its communist friends than its so-called "free world" allies. If Poland were in Latin America, he says, we would be pressing for a crackdown on trade unions. Instead, we have showered Poland with \$25 billion worth of hard currency loans -- more than we've loaned any other country -- any other country, that is, except our supposed arch-rival, the Soviet Union.

The Agriculture Department says the bulk of government farm support payments are going to the farmers who need it least. A USDA study found almost half of the two billion dollars paid out in 1978 went to just ten percent of the nation's farms -- those with the biggest acreage.

**CHINESE OFFICIALS** who have been studying American research on the dangers of microwave radiation have come up with exposure limits two hundred times tougher than in the US. American experiments suggest that microwaves can alter brain chemicals, and that's convinced the Chinese to establish the more stringent exposure limits.

**COMPLAINTS TO THE BETTER** Business Bureau are soaring -- up two hundred percent in some cities, with most of the beefs centering on mail-order firms and auto repair shops. Nationwide, the BBB's received nearly 40,000 mail-order complaints in the first half of this year.

**DURING THE VIETNAM WAR**, David Hackworth was the Army's youngest and most-decorated full colonel. He resigned in 1971 to protest Vietnam tactics. Now ten years later, Hackworth has written an essay for the Manchester Guardian in which he says the Army's brass is still obsessed with "Buck Rogers junk" such as the so-called "smart" bombs which actually mistook water buffalo for Vietnamese soldiers, and the M-16 rifle, notorious for frequently jamming. The Pentagon, says Hackworth, is ready to spend one and a half trillion dollars on "a new generation of junk," including the B-1 bomber and the M-1 tank, which he calls "goodies and gimmicks" that make Pentagon planners happy but simply don't work on the battlefield.

**NEW YORK CITY** sent a "Make It in New York" exhibition to a trade fair in Zurich. Someone found out that the exhibit was made in New Jersey. Said one city official, well, it "was a New York firm with Jersey connections." Mayor Koch said, "We don't want to exclude companies from other cities. This is one country."

#### THE DC GAZETTE

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The Gazette welcomes articles, letters and photos as well as short stories and poems, but cannot, unfortunately, afford to pay for them. All submissions should be made with a stamped self-addressed envelope if you wish material returned.

Deadline for editorial and advertising matter: 15th of the month.

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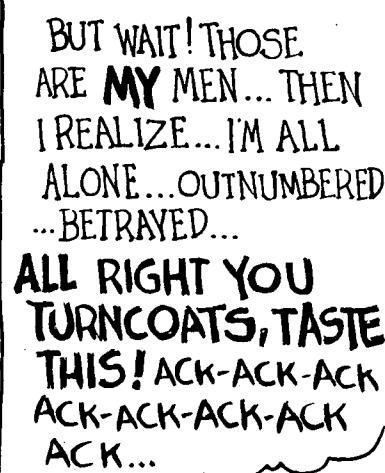
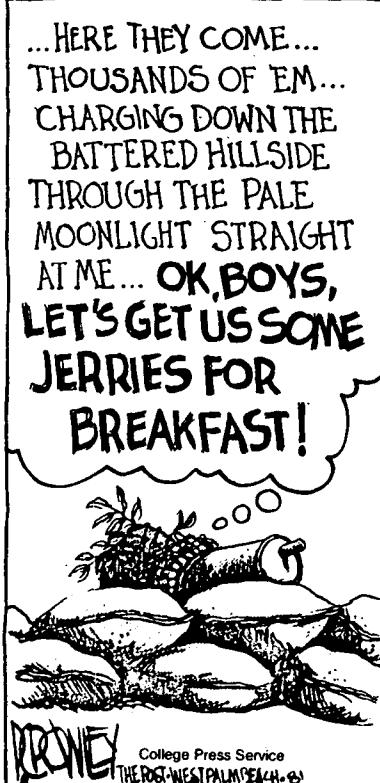
## Apple Pie

**A FRENCH FIRM** has come with an automatic public toilet that looks a like a fortified phone booth. At the drop of a coin, soft music starts playing, the seat warms up and a supply of paper appears. After the visitor leaves, the door locks itself while the seat is disinfected and the air is freshened. If the cabin is occupied for more than 20 minutes, a red light begins flashing and a siren goes off. The London City Council is interested enough to have ordered some, calling them "rather fun."

As part of a legislative housecleaning, the Pennsylvania state legislature has done away with an 1866 ordinance barring bone-boiling in most parts of Philadelphia and a 1872 law making it a crime for a married woman to buy a sewing machine without her husband's consent.

In New York City, volunteers posed as thieves who staged mock break-ins of 250 automobiles. Although the break-ins occurred in full view of passersby, only five pedestrians in 100 tried to stop the thefts. Still lots of New Yorkers did get involved: twenty percent offered to help the thieves in exchange for part of the loot.

When Jerry Falwell went to Hawaii to set up a chapter of the Moral Majority, he found out there already was one. A group of Hawaiians, upset about Falwell's approach to things, had registered its name legally with the state, so that nobody else could use it.

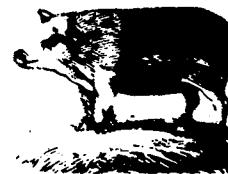


Bert Lance has gone into the chili business. He has become the principal investor, board chairman and reputedly best customer of Ruby's Texas Chili. Says company president Vernon Stoddard, "Bert's our biggest customer, except he gets it free."

Dr. Erno Rubik, whose fiendish cube has tormented millions around the world, has something else up his sleeve: Rubik's Snake. It's a serpentine puzzle made of pyramid-shaped plastic blocks that swivel just like the cube. The object is to get the snake back in the box it came in. The 37-year old Hungarian architect says he doesn't know if his snake will outsell his cube -- and he doesn't care. Around the world at least 25 million cubes are being twiddled and Rubik already has, by his own admission, enough income to buy a new car every couple of days."

Space Invader fans in Britain have figured out how to beat the game easily with the aid of an electric cigarette lighter. Flicked in front of just the right part of the machine, the lighters drive the video machines crazy, racking up huge scores and an endless stream of free games. Associated Leisure Limited, which distributes the games, refused comment on the lighter trick. "Obviously," a spokesman said, "we are not too keen for youngster to learn about it."

The Air Force recently bought 1600 sets of stars for four-star generals. There are only 13 four-star generals in the Air Force.



The Reverend Samuel Philpott of Plymouth, England, is asking for a \$35 deposit from anyone wanting to be married at his church. He says he's been stood up too often by couples who have second thoughts. "It's not just the cost," says Philpott, "It's the wasted time as well."

Fans of nude swimming at Harvard's Adams House dorm say a decision to reduce nude swimming hours at the dorm pool is part of a new-right morality campaign. Pool Manager Mark Sauter is also the publisher of a conservative campus paper, and the other Harvard paper, the Crimson, claims he's imposing his morals on the skinny dippers. Sauter says that's not it -- he just wants the pool to be open to people who are uncomfortable around naked swimmers.

# WHO CARES ABOUT THE FAMILY?

**John L. McKnight**

Everyone in government these days is for the family. It has become a major theme in U.S. politics, and it's the fundamental building block in President Reagan's vision of a revitalized America.

In the older neighborhoods of the nation's cities, however, that vision is taking on a special irony. Here, the systematic assault on the family universe which has been waged for years—under Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives—still goes on.

Indeed, the very conception of the family held by those at the institutional top of U.S. society remains at polar odds with the view held by those at the neighborhood and family level.

The view from the top is expressed by voices which speak of families as "markets," "producing baby booms," "in need of being strengthened," and "having demographic patterns demonstrating various needs."

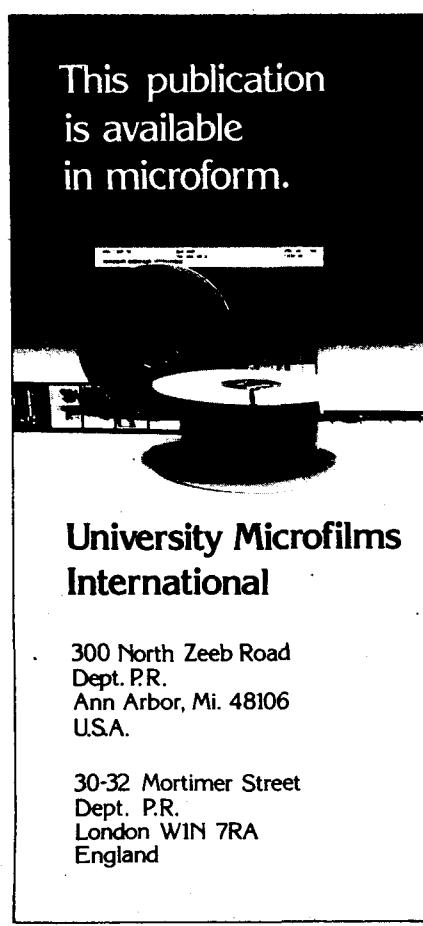
One hears this language most frequently in the board rooms of corporations, the staff meeting of social service agencies and the hearing rooms of legislatures. It demonstrates the uniformity of the institutional view of the family: Family is to buy, to use, to consume, to be helped, to be treated. And family is to provide effective workers and soldiers for the maintenance of institutions.

But out in the neighborhoods, families are the place where you are, from which you come, and to which you will return. However you define them—extended or nuclear, legal or de facto—families are about survival. Families make, do, make-do, produce, solve, celebrate and, sometimes, fail.

Families also exist in a special universe. They are surrounded by other bodies that make up the interrelated system necessary for the family to work. These bodies are the neighborhood organization, civic club, ethnic organization, local political club, family business, local union, church or temple and

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thousands of informal groups. It is this universe that gets much of the work of America done. It is this universe that provides the gravity that holds America on course as our great institutions and their systems increasingly fluctuate, wobble, veer and fail.

Viewed from the neighborhoods, the family and its related organizations are the center of life.

Yet, with government's blessing and direct help, large-scale institutions generally dominate and take power away from the family universe. And from the viewpoint of these institutions, families are not the center of society—they are the end of a pipeline, at the bottom of an organizational chart of society.

Indeed, evidence of policies that disempower the family universe abounds. Government services are replete with programs, for example, that promote the division of families by age. This is most vivid in the case of the elderly, where public agencies encourage care by institutions rather than families.

Many government programs also are injurious because they allocate massive resources to professionals who basically see the family as a client in need of treatment and therapy. These service professionals have the increasing effect of convincing families that they are incompetent to know, care, teach, cure, make or do. Only certified experts can do that.

Moreover, professional servicers take increasing proportions of public money, desperately needed by the poor, and consume it in the name of helping poor families. In one Chicago neighborhood, for every dollar received in cash income by a person forced on welfare, medical care professionals receive 50 cents.

We need a radical new policy that reexamines such service transfer payments in terms of their potential to promote a real investment in competence and independence. Instead, the very social and economic context that could insure the working capacity of the family universe is being undermined by a public policy which favors large-scale corporations to the disadvantage of small-scale family and neighborhood enterprises, as well as the small family farm.

This administration, like its recent predecessors, clearly sees the economy of the family only as a trickle-down beneficiary of large-scale production.

A government seriously concerned about family and production would begin to reexamine what we make and how we make it. Why not hold hearings on neighborhood economy, tools for community production, legal authority to create local energy management corporations?

Even without such reinforcement, families in our older, inner-city neighborhoods function as critical survival centers. But as the neighborhood savings institution begins to invest neighborhood savings in the growth of suburbia, a part of the family universe dies. As community schools become centralized and their purposes are defined by professionals, a part of the family universe dies.

As government offers advantages to large corporations and "uncompetitive" neighborhood enterprise collapses, a part of the family universe dies. As doctors, lawyers, social workers, teachers, counselors and therapists are funded to provide more and more services, the functions of the local civic and ethnic associations and churches atrophy.

As television replaces the local political club as the vehicle for selecting our representatives, a part of the family universe dies.

The basis of an economy for family survival—the authority, tools, skill, capital—is being taken away, and the family in the inner city, especially, often stands alone.

The question, therefore, is not whether govern-

ment is willing simply to declare itself "pro-family." It is whether government is prepared to remove the restraints and provide the protections to allow the family universe a central place in our society. To do so will require a new breed of public official—because the family and its constituent groups presently have no real lobbies, while those who have taken our power and authority have loud voices in Washington.

We wonder out in the neighborhoods whether anyone in Washington can even hear us.

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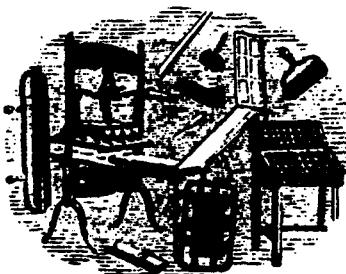
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# THE PRESS

## Bob Alperin



After President Reagan's remark about limiting a nuclear war to Europe touched off a torrent of continental concern, the *Washington Post* gave thorough coverage, including segments from the President's interview with out-of-town editors. Its original report of the interview omitted the topic. Though previously alert to European nuclear weapons protest, the *Post* didn't see that Reagan's restating an old position would affect a Europe that is increasingly aware of the policy's implications.

Two earlier stories might have more logically aroused greater discussion here and in Europe. The *Post* reported a contemplated new U.S. command network in outer space. Gone was the assumption a nuclear war would be quick. The proposed system was to function in a prolonged nuclear war. The *Hartford Courant* ran a *Los Angeles Times* analysis of the attitudes of current arms control officials and found a major shift from previous administrations. Rather than unthinkable, such a war could be won. The executive director of the General Advisory Committee to the Arms Control agency said that nuclear war was "still in large part a physics problem." One can survive and prevail.

Reagan sees a U.S. without any serious culpability in world affairs, never a threat to Soviet security, and overly generous in arms control negotiations. (That Soviet officials might feel threatened by bases surrounding their country is not considered plausible, nor is Russia's history of being invaded seen as relevant to partly explaining their buildups.) The administration sees Soviet arms programs explained solely by a desire to achieve superiority for the purposes of nuclear blackmail, the *Times* reported.

Nuclear war cannot be limited to a particular place or level of ferocity according to a new paper from London's International Institute for Strategic Studies. The weapons had "too many disparate effects," not all predictable, for use "in precise and discriminatory fashion." The study was a brief note in the *New York Times*.

At the same interview noted above, Reagan made another statement that escaped serious scrutiny. He believed the Soviets "cannot vastly increase their military productivity because they've already got their people on a starvation diet of sawdust." Does the President believe that an arms race would be a prudent policy because the Soviets couldn't keep up, and the U.S. could regain a clear supremacy? What sort of information does he have regarding the Soviet system? Are his dietary observations to be taken as a serious belief about conditions in the USSR?

If the defense secretary warned that the U.S. was in "imminent danger" from a Soviet military threat would the media give it a big play? Weinberger's alarm made the *Post's* page 17. Other high officials took it no more seriously. The president didn't alert our forces, address the nation, or call up the reserves. What does "imminent" mean in Washington?

A classic *Post* hidden-story trick: A two column head: "Teamsters Agree to Reopen Talks on Truck-

ing Pacts." One column's sub-head: "PATCO Asks Return Of Negotiators." No, the air controllers weren't mediating the teamster-trucker talks.

On Columbus Day the *Post* told of the diver who found evidence that Chinese ships had visited America long before 1492. Why did the story have to end with a Chinese restaurant joke?

A couple of 2-sentence *Post* reports deserved followup. The European Community denounced Turkey's arrest of ex-Premier Ecevit, warning that \$600 million in aid could be lost unless democracy was restored. What are the EEC's assumptions and expectations regarding using economic aid to promote democracy? How often do they try the tactic? A comparison of Reagan and EEC thinking would be useful.

Another note told of Australian aborigines receiving 40,000 square miles taken from them in the 18th century. Why was it returned? Is it of any value? Shortly before, the paper had run major stories on the usually ignored aborigines.

Brief dispatches from Iran reported that Parliament rejected one proposed Prime Minister and confirmed the second choice with 115 votes, less than the combined 155 of the nays, abstentions, and absent. Isn't it time to stop treating the Islamic Republic Party as a monolith?

Jack Anderson's columns on arms contract scandals in the Egyptian military caused no public stir among politicians or commentators. A curious reaction to information about a country that is becoming key in U.S. strategic thinking.

For most newspapers science news seems to consist of rewrites of wire service copy on new cures or causes or dread diseases, a world of menace or breakthrough. *Post* management deserves high marks for giving reporters a year to work on the cancer series. Yet its sensational tone, misunderstandings and inaccuracies had the potential for much harm to research and patients. *Post* readers and the National Cancer Institute made well-taken criticisms. The *Boston Globe*, which picked up the series, ran a top of the front page "explainer" to clarify the issues after a doctor reported floods of calls from patients. One cancelled treatment with proven, not experimental, drug therapy. In contrast to the sensational cancer series, the *Post* ran a soberly-written, informative account of recent developments in biology.

Given the public response to PBS science programs, it's puzzling that the *New York Times* and *Miami Herald* should be virtually alone in having weekly science-medicine sections.

Does the *Post* have surveys showing most readers read the "Business & Finance" section? If not, didn't Reagan's first use of executive privilege (refusing 31 documents to a Congressional committee) deserve up front placement? Similarly I would think Caroline Mayer's excellent and continuing coverage of the dismantling of consumer protection on programs deserves "A" section billing.

When the *Post* used a *Boston Globe* piece on the sale in the U.S. of Uzi sub-machine guns, it omitted the part on alterations by the buyers. To be sold here, the Israeli guns are modified to be semi-automatic. Conversion to fully automatic is illegal, yet ads in gun magazines sell instructions for that purpose. Gun dealers told the *Globe* that few gunsmiths had the skill for the job and that another gun was easier to alter.

A later *Hartford Courant* story noted the weapon's inappropriateness for hunting animals, and quoted its U.S. distributor as saying he'd never seen conversion ads in gun magazines. The paper cited specific, current ads. Anyway the gun's casing is inscribed: "Warning: alterations to this firearm are illegal and unsafe."

Jordan's King Hussein was coming to lunch. The State Department displayed a Middle East map that had no "Israel" on it. Pressed by reporters, State had no comment, but soon a taped-on "Israel" appeared. Ten minutes later they retired the map, replacing it with one of metropolitan Amman. (The *Baltimore Sun* picked up the AP report.) If Begin came to lunch would a map show Judea and Samaria (aka West Bank) as part of Israel?

Among wire service stories the *Post* ignored were those about a Los Alamos plutonium leak that exposed 12 employees to contamination, a potentially hazardous malfunction of the reactor ventilation system at Hanford, Washington (both in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*), and two on plots to kill Yasir Arafat.

The *Christian Science Monitor* gave extensive details of a plan to kill Arafat allegedly "masterminded" by Syria. The information was said to have been uncovered by Austrian police when they questioned two Palestinians captured after an attack on a synagogue. The head of the Austrian state police denied the report. UPI (via *Miami Herald*) moved a claim from Egypt's semi-official *Al-Ahram* that in closed PLO meetings Arafat charged Syria with plotting his death. If the *Post* didn't use the Arafat stories because of doubt as to their validity, it is heartening to know that, contrary to their editorial claim in the Carter-Ear affair, they don't print rumor.

The *Miami Herald* did a significant story on the efforts of Abu Nidal's Palestinian faction "with the apparent back of Syria" to undermine the PLO's diplomatic offensive with acts of violence. Reporter Goodgame touched on intra-PLO conflicts and Israeli views of them. The diplomatic offensive is seen as less predictable and more likely to bring results not desired by Israel. (A possible response: to provoke wider sections of the PLO into violence.) While the media sometimes remind us that the PLO is an umbrella organization, they hardly explore the details of Palestinian politics.

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* headlines best caught the meaning of Sadat in the Arab world. Under the banner "Sadat Laid to Rest . . ." were two stories "Absence of Public Emotion" and "Arab Bloc Boycotts



Funeral." The *Post*'s Loren Jenkins did a significant comparison of the plans and public response of the Nasser and Sadat burials. While Sadat's death became an occasion for the media to note a few of Egypt's problems, David Ottaway had an impressive article in the *Post* several days before Sadat's death on similar trends (and differences) in the Shah's Iran and Egypt. Often ignored items included inflation, the acute housing shortage, middle class discontent, and Sadat's unwillingness to hear contrary opinions even from close advisors.

Most comment was the same: laudatory accounts of Sadat. Rare was William Brown's *Christian Science Monitor* commentary that few Americans "grasp the sense of betrayal experienced by many Arabs" over Sadat's unilateral deal with Israel. Brown advised us to think of the Arabs as a single political system. (When Iraq routinely referred to the "traitor Sadat regime" they had in mind betrayal of the Arab nation.) The ex-US diplomat and author gives useful advice if we remember too that rivalries and competition among Arab nations explain some behavior. Too often, U.S. analysts see Arab lands almost entirely in relation to this country or Israel.

The *Post*'s Jonathan Randal struck a theme similar to Brown, explaining important parts of the Arab case against Sadat. But Randal seemed to undermine any legitimacy to the Arab viewpoint when he wrote: "No matter how tortured such logic may seem to Westerners..." Reporters did not remind readers that Sadat's peace treaty violated Egypt's treaty obligation to the Arab world (to never sign a separate peace) as well as his personal promises to Arab heads of state around the time of his original visit to Israel.

One day after the Senate cleared AWACS, Saudi Arabia raised its oil price \$2 a barrel. The next day it announced a production cutback. If the arms deal had failed is their any doubt many "experts" would have attributed the Saudi acts to a rash and emotional Arab response to the vote rather than to the unified price they've long pursued for OPEC?

The *Post* played the joke-on-Vice-President-Bush angle: making a pitch for AWACs he compared the good Saudis to Qaddafi, "the world's principal terrorist," who protects Idi Amin. But Amin has been living in Saudi Arabia. He told a reporter that he received 2 cars and a "handsome monthly sum" plus asylum.

Commentary on the apparent Saudi friendship for the man Amnesty International blames for 300,000 murders was absent. Surely inquiry was in order as to why he is treated as he is. Is the accepted western view of Amin considered inaccurate or irrelevant? Has Uganda sought extradition? Why is Libya so condemned for giving Amin a haven when he was ousted from Uganda, but few words said about his current asylum?

AWACS, RDF, pledges of no more Irans—all may be irrelevant if the security consultants inter-

viewed by the *Miami Herald* know their business. They agreed that lightly-armed saboteurs who knew what to do could cause severe oil field damage. A single shoulder-fired rocket could destroy almost a billion barrels of oil in storage tanks. Even without those assessments, plans to rely less on Middle East oil deserve a high priority.

The *Post* gave extensive coverage to how the AWACS vote was achieved and received, but virtually ignored significant parts of the story. It gave few details of the letter, signed by Reagan, but written in parts by various senators. The epistle was supposed to allay senatorial fears about the security of the planes and the information it gathered. Taking almost a page of small print in the *Congressional Record*, it was delivered the day of the vote, thus precluding any checkup on the validity of its promises.

*Post* readers weren't told that before the planes may be delivered the President must certify to Congress in writing that the Saudis have met a series of detailed conditions on AWACS use. Readers of the *Miami Herald*, which provided a modified text, learned that the Saudis could not share AWACS-gathered data with any third power without U.S. approval.

The letter says that some day an American presi-

dent must say that Saudi Arabia consented to conditions clearly infringing their sovereignty, hardly a boost for the Royal family's standing at home or in the Arab world. But, there's an out.

Two days after the vote *Boston Globe* and *New York Times* reports made clear the letter didn't mean what it seemed to. White House Chief of Staff Baker said the letter "probably does not have technical legal effect" (*Times*) and "does not constitute any part of the agreement with Saudi Arabia" (*Globe*). Contrary to senatorial impressions it did not provide for joint crews or for withholding delivery if the Saudis didn't participate in the peace process. (Of course the senators were thinking of the Camp David process. Saudi diplomats are already quite active with their own peace plan.) Reagan appears to have given the senators the same full value for their concerns as he did the air controllers with his written pledge of support to PATCO.

After the AWACS vote the *Post* presented an account of how corporate and conservative groups worked to save the deal. Other papers reported the lobbying before the issue was decided, thus better enabling readers to assess the interests and issues involved. Notable were a *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* report on business lobbying and a *Boston Globe* account on "the Jewish lobby." While the *Post* cited the views of various pro-Israeli groups, it gave no detailed accounts of the lobbying effort. (In a related matter, *The Sunday Times* (London) provided an account of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee's efforts to reverse the initially-critical view of Israel's bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor.) Also ignored by most American media are the views and activities of Arab-Americans.

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The excellent "60 Minutes" segment on the Titan missiles' safety problems wasn't news to readers of the *Arkansas Gazette* (Little Rock). In one major story, an Air Force officer claimed the AF was "lying" when it said Titan II's safety was improved after last year's silo explosion. He cited deceptive records, faulty equipment, frequent malfunctions, missing replacement parts, and crews overworked and insufficiently trained. The officer, whose views found agreement from other Titan personnel, said superiors treat complaints as an "attitude problem." He said that maintenance teams unable to obtain parts take them from another silo, thus making the first repair in the required time and having more time to find the parts. Each silo has three water chillers which keep rocket fuel heat down and hold fuel pressure below hazardous levels. If two are working, repair of the third is a low priority. If a second one broke down, the remaining one could overload after a while.

Another *Gazette* story told of a protestor who went over a fence and spent 31 minutes at a missile site until apprehended by security people. Tipped off, the paper printed photos of the whole affair.

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## CHUCK STONE

*Chuck Stone, a long-time contributor to the Gazette, has been a congressional aide (to Adam Clayton Powell), editor of the Afro-American, the author of three books and, most recently, senior editor of the Philadelphia News.*

*In 1972, Stone, then a new columnist for the News, mediated a work stoppage at a state prison near Wilkes-Barre, Pa. In the past four years, a dozen persons wanted for murder or other crimes have turned themselves into him.*

*Last month, Stone found himself in the middle again. At the request of Pennsylvania governor Dick Thornburgh, he successfully mediated the end of a five-day prisoner-hostage confrontation at Pennsylvania's Eastern State Correctional Institution at Graterford. In this article, Chuck describes the tense hours he spent inside Graterford talking with people like seige leaders Joseph Bowen and Calvin Williams. With this article, we are also publishing some of the letters Stone subsequently received from Graterford inmates:*

I was sitting on a metal folding chair, watching a wiry, intense man named Jo-Jo Bowen point a double-barreled shotgun at me.

I had been thinking not too long before that about how well things were going. I had been thinking that we were so very, very close to talking Bowen out of the kitchen without anybody getting hurt.

Now picture this: I went into this thing thinking that I would stand by for conversation or discussion or whatever it took to get things moving. I saw myself in a lesser role at Graterford.

But it didn't turn out that way at all. All of the sudden, Bowen's brother and I were there. There! We were negotiating—at once fascinated and totally and absurdly frightened—and sometimes I would make the rules. I would tell Bowen when I wanted to meet again.

It got to a point where I could joke with Bowen in a strange way, testing him.

When I came back to him and Calvin Williams and said, OK, they've accepted your 12 demands

and they said, Yeah, but we've got seven more here we'd like to talk about, I could smile at them through my exhaustion and say, Hey, brother, you won't do this to me again, will you? I'll take these back to the prison people, but don't pull this on me again, please?

Bowen kind of smirked at me.

So there I was, sitting on a metal folding chair five feet away from Bowen yesterday afternoon. He was standing in the doorway with Williams and they were both holding shotguns, as they usually were.

And I was thinking, damn, we're close.

Then Bowen went off on an angry sermon. He said, "I'm tired of this s---. I'm ready to go."

I really felt then that he was prepared to die and I did a lot of, Hey, man, I kept my word. I kept my end of it.

I saw the guns and I looked into Bowen's dark, somber eyes.

This is some place to die, I thought. Graterford. Right here in this corridor, after we had put together what little we had in the most fragile of fragile agreements.

I waited and sat still. Then I tried saying something about going back and negotiating several points, all the time trying to stay cool. Bowen finally said that was OK.

And I got up out of my seat and left, and Jeff, Bowen's brother, did the same and we walked down the corridor together.

One more brick in the wall, I thought.

It is hard to imagine the anger in Jo-Jo Bowen. Make no mistake—he's smart and he's rational. But he's so angry, so full of rage.

Before we got there, he kept it in. Calvin Williams and the others knew all the raps, had said them themselves so many times to one another but who do they tell it to besides themselves?

My first time facing Bowen was Sunday night. I walked down the corridor and sat down (I'm simplifying this—it took a lot of explaining by the authorities and a lot of instruction before Jeff and I sat down opposite Bowen and Williams) and said something like, what do you want, what can we do?

And man, it came out like a torrent. We just sat and listened for close to an hour.

He talked about dignity and oppression and being called a boy and treated like a boy. He said he knew of "white boys" who have tried to "roll," and been caught and didn't get thrown into the "hole."

Now what kind of justice is that? he asked.

That was his sermon—now what kind of justice is that?—and it spilled out of him in an explosive rage. All the while I was taking notes furiously.

He said he knew white people who were cool, but it was the guys in the "white shirts" walking around that do a number on you, make you feel like less of a man every day and after a while even you start to believe it. He meant the people who run the place.

I listened to the biting words. Sometimes Calvin Williams would say them, too. Keep listening, I told myself. Listen to what he has to say. My mind was doing revolutions—should I seize on that point? Should I keep quiet? Should I challenge? Just listen to what he has to say, I decided.

Oh man, there was a war going on in my stomach! I popped Mylantas as if they were candy.

Then he calmed down some, and he said that he was no angel, he killed three people and he was prepared to do his time. But he said that while he was there, at Graterford, give him respect, dignity, treat him like a human being.

And I took this down and after it was over, I looked at my notes and kept seeing the same words, over and over again: racism, oppression, lack of respect.

I got back to the Daily News at midnight and wrote a story, but my mind was still turning over and over. I couldn't sleep that night, I couldn't calm down. Before I left the house yesterday, my wife, Louise, broke some of the tension by saying, "It would be a damn shame for them to kill you." Now understand, my wife has this sardonic sense of humor. But how it helped!

I told Louise and my son that I loved them, and they said they loved me.

Then it was time to return to Graterford and Jo-Jo Bowen and his rage.

Let me stop here and say that despite that grim prospect and the fear I felt, I was cheered immeasurably by the professionalism shown by most of the prison officials. I was there to save lives and so were they.

By early afternoon, I had a common ground with Bowen. I felt I understood him well, although I feared him and the others. I showed him some humor and I got away with it. The nuances of intense communication between two people who want something out of each other began.

We went up and down, back and forth. I was confident again. There was the moment when I thought Bowen was going to shoot, then we rode that out.

And then Jo-Jo Bowen said, OK, we're going to end it, and someone said, well, what do we do first? I said something about never having done this before, but I think the hostages go first.

Bowen said he wasn't going without his "steel," and the next moment I found myself huddling in a bathroom with Jeff Bowen and a state trooper as Jo-Jo and Williams emptied the guns into the corridor walls.

Bowen's last venting of rage.

And we made it through the tunnel into a blinding light.

With the sound of gunshot blasts and Jo Bowen's words in my head, I said to myself, it's over.

*[Philadelphia Daily News]*

## Letters from Graterford . . .

Since the ending of the Graterford hostage siege, my mailbox has overflowed with letters from Graterford inmates who describe the kind of horror nightmares that breed prison riots.

**Wrote R.M.:** "The staff tore things off the wall and went through our mail, took our drinking cups, some clothes, our tables and chairs and our floor brushes that we keep our cells clean with.

"Yes, there is a race problem here and it is getting truly out of hand."

**F.H.** called Graterford "Dachau concentration camp."

"Disrespect, racism, oppression, the violation of prisoner constitutional rights and a total disregard for human rights exist in this camp."

"I have seen black and white inmates get misconduct reports on the same charges, yet the black inmate will get the severest punishment than the white inmate."

"The food, most of the time, is not fit for human consumption and many of us go to bed hungry."

"Inmates were forced to strip naked and subjected to a rectal search. Does this look like a search for weapons or just disrespect, harassment and retaliation?"

"Foot lockers to store our belongings were taken, dust pans and dust brushes and powder were taken. Drinking cups, chairs and benches were taken, tables that are needed to write on were taken and even flower plants that some inmates were growing in their windows were taken."

"I watched during the search, some white racist

guards take desks, chairs and tables out of black inmates cells and leave these same items in some white inmates cells."

**Worried R.W.:** "In this hell hole, things are getting real restless here."

**B.B.** who signed his letter, "in the struggle," eloquently wrote: "This is the stuff Atticas are made of. For obvious reasons, people who have very little to begin with become irrational when other people begin chipping away at their pittance."

"After an incident such as the one you averted, the public lends an eye and maybe an ear for a few days."

"For those few days, the prison officials get in line, the rats are chased into their holes and guards act like human beings. But the moment the heat is off, things go back to business as usual until the next flare-up."

**S.W.** warned that "if things remain the same, there will be bloodshed for nothing. And I say for nothing because these people [administration] are creating the situation themselves."

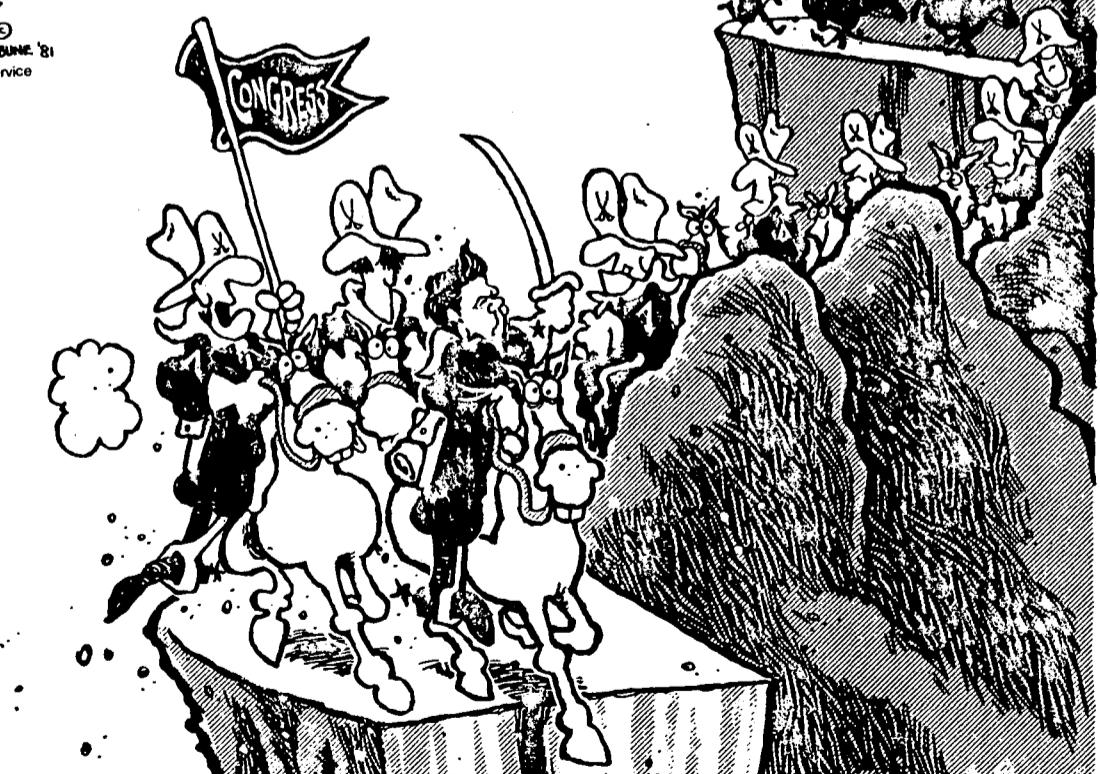
**D.S.** said "the trouble would've struck Graterford anyway... The prison is completely dangerous, the falling apart of the prison, the racial tendencies of the guards, the bad food, living conditions, and most of all, the absence of any and all rehabilitative measures."

"You think you saw rats in the storeroom, come to the cell blocks at night."

To **J.O.** "this place is literally a death trap and best, the worst sewer in existence."

—C.S.

TAYLOR  
ALBUQUERQUE TRIBUNE '81  
College Press Service



**More Weather Report page 18**



## Lansburgh's next?

The Pennsylvania Avenue Developers Commission, whose aesthetic ideal is a PMI parking lot after closing hours and whose blandification has subsumed much of the area west of the FBI Building, is now looking eastward. And sure enough, it has fixed its sights on the Lansburgh's Building, one of the few place where, up until now, it has managed to do things right.

Such a situation is, of course, intolerable and so PADC wants to rip down much of Lansburgh's, squeezing the present funky, fascinating and low-rent-paying artists currently inhabiting the place into a much smaller area at many times the rent.

Were Lansburgh's a great drain on PADC, there might be some justification for the assault on DC's fledgling cultural center, but, according to Phil Oglivie, head of the Foundation for Creative Space, PADC pretty much covers its mortgage costs as it is. Although the present occupants have a lease through 1986, PADC is moving to draw up plans for the 7th Street area which, with only belated help from PADC, has developed into a rather nifty arts hive -- exactly what those babbling bureaucrats of the planocracy should be meaning when they talk about a "a lively, liveable downtown."

The emasculation of the Lansburgh's cultural project is being speeded along, it would appear, by two factors: the PADC's still unfulfilled commitment to provide some housing downtown and the possibility that the Reaganistas might move to abolish PADC altogether. Oglivie has moved quickly to save the building and the area, proposing that his foundation be allowed to develop a partnership with a builder. He claims to have found developers who are interested in the idea, which would, in effect, provide subsidized space for the arts community. Oglivie has also come up with alternative plans for Lansburgh's that would mix housing (including some units built atop the present building) with cultural use.

Of course, absent the Tinkertoy mentality of the PADC, the whole area might develop quite nicely on its own. As Harry Lowe, acting director of the National Museum of American Art, put it in a letter to PADC chair Max Berry, "The fact that Seventh Street has privately developed as a magnet for the arts should illustrate the value of permitting a slower, more organic growth \*\*\* retaining what is feasible of the existing fabric in the process. This slower approach might include less explicit placement and mix of office, housing and retail space. We are disturbed at PADC's proposed demolition of the Lansburgh Building on Seventh Street, much of which has already been renovated for and is being used by arts groups. This is exactly the sort of activity PADC should encourage. The proposed 1.65 million square feet of office space in a prime location of the city can surely support 100,000 square feet of arts space, which is the area in the Lansburgh Building currently being dedicated to this purpose. A minuscule fraction of office revenue could be designated as a subsidy for the art space, so that small, nonprofit groups could remain in the area."

Such talk, unfortunately, does not go down well at the PADC where the development yahoos long ago committed themselves to the biggest buildings for the biggest bucks and where neither the



PHIL OGLIVIE

interests of the city nor of aesthetics is of more than tertiary concern. Oglivie's plan to negotiate with PADC is admirable and we wish him luck. The fact remains that logic and sweet reasonableness have not been notably effective with this crowd and artists and others concerned about 7th Street and Lansburgh's might wish to engage in more creative and boisterous opposition to PADC's plans. Continuous and noisy protest is what saved much of what has been saved along Pennsylvania Avenue. The PADC and city hall simply have to be made to understand that this town wants to keep its new arts strip. And is willing to fight for it.

## A fire below

Although the risk of a serious fire in Metro is considered very slight, quietly conducted late night fire drills held some weeks before the opening of the Van Ness extension suggests that if Metro's extensive safety system were to fail, a tunnel fire could turn into a major disaster.

The drills involved not only hordes of fire department personnel and equipment but over a hundred civilian volunteers and a group of actors grotesquely made up to simulate injured riders.

The three nights of drills centered on the Cleveland Park station. According to Captain McElton Fleming, Metro Liason Officer, the drills "went very well for what we established as our objectives. One of our objectives was not that we could handle any serious problems in Metro without any trouble. We can't."

In fact, as a result of the drills, it was concluded that a normal box alarm "was insufficient for any incident in a tunnel." The fire department is moving to have any Metro tunnel fire made an automatic two alarm incident, the first time such an automatic two-alarm status has been established in DC. In the third drill, which involved the largest number of fake passengers, it became apparent that a third alarm would have been necessary.

Metro officials, based on their own safety systems and the empirical record of Metro (which has established itself as the safest subway system in the country), believe the likelihood of a runaway fire is extremely remote. Cody Pfanstiehl, public affairs boss of Metro, says it's possible but "then California could slip into the sea."

Metro's confidence is based on structural differences between its system and those in places like San Francisco and New York which have had fire problems. For example, the cars used by San Francisco's BART actually have holes in the floor that permit tunnel smoke to enter. Metro cars are considered air-tight and Metro hinges its presumption of safety on the probability that a train that either caught fire or ran into a smoke-filled section of tunnel could make it to the next station before there was any serious danger to the passengers. Safety devices include standpipes throughout the Metro tunnels that are connected with streetlevel fire mains and fans that permit air to be blown in any direction.

The fire department takes a less sanguine view. Said Fleming, "if all the safety features hold up in use, we'll have one of the safest systems in the country." If the systems are not maintained or don't hold up "there will be trouble."

Further, should the safety procedures fail, the task of handling a fire and as many as 1700 potential victims on a rush-hour train could be overwhelming. Even with a hundred passengers and the heavy commitment of equipment and personnel by the department, the firefighters were hard-pressed. The prime problem the firefighters faced was trying to carry out the drill with breathing apparatus that only had about a fifteen minute capacity. It was also clear that there was inadequate communications, both for the firefighters and the passengers. Said one "normal" (the phrase used for the uninjured fake passengers), "there was a singular lack of communications from the operator."

It is also clear to fire officials that they need some way of moving their bulky equipment along the tracks. In one of the drills, the fire was located 1300 feet from the station entrance and several firemen, even under drill conditions, showed signs of heat exhaustion.

There also appears to be some difference of opinion over how passengers should be evacuated should the need occur. Some city officials feel that passengers should be told about the manual levers concealed in each car that open side doors. Metro officials worry that not only could this destroy the airtight integrity of the cars but that rowdy youths could bring trains to a halt by playing with them. Metro prefers any evacuation to occur through the end doors.

All in all, you're probably safer on Metro than you are driving on the streets above, but DC's fire department, which has kept this city one of the best-ranked urban areas for fire safety, can't rely on optimism. For example there is always the danger of sabotage of the subway. It would seem a matter of logical precaution for city officials to take the department's concerns seriously and provide it with the equipment to do the job better should the unthinkable ever occur.

*The Gazette offers free space to candidates for citywide and ward office in which to express their views about local issues. All copy must be camera-ready, no larger than 7x7 inches and submitted by the fifteenth of the month. We remind candidates that Gazette readers prefer thoughtful argument to redundant rhetoric.*

## The worst election

We've seen more than one fouled-up election in DC over the years, but this year's collection of snafus has to challenge even that incredible time when the elections board was dropping ballot boxes off the back of pickup trucks as they were on their way to be counted. Here is an incomplete list of some of the things that went wrong:

- The voter registration lists were inaccurate and not available in completed form in time for effective challenge.
- The ballot for statehood constitutional convention was placed on the back of the ballot for school board, which greatly increased chances that voters might fail to vote for one or the other.
- One person reported receiving ballots for five different ANCs. Another told us they got two. Many got the wrong one.
- At one precinct where school board candidate Manuel Lopez was expected to pull well, the precinct inexplicably opened an hour late.
- Voters were wrongly told that they weren't registered and not allowed to cast challenged ballots.
- More than a half-dozen precincts were relocated at the last minute.
- One ANC commissioner found that she couldn't even vote for herself.
- The ANC ballot did not indicate the office that was being contested.
- In one of the voting precincts, the ballots were cast on the second floor making it difficult for the handicapped and the elderly to vote.
- Some precincts ran out of ballots for ANCs.

If you wanted to rig an election, the way this one was run was a case study in how to do it. The only cheerful fact is, however, that it would appear that these screw-ups were caused by sheer incompetence. The elections board and Marion Barry have plenty to answer for.

Manuel Lopez, one of the candidates, has proposed a court fight to reform the city's election system. He says, "My lawyers tell me that if enough people are willing to give statements about the problems they encountered, we have a good chance of persuading the DC Court of Appeals to consider taking action." His primary goal would be to get a court order forcing the DC government to take specific, positive steps to ensure that future elections go smoothly. Anyone who was victimized in this election or observed irregularities can write Lopez at PO Box 5454, DC 20016.

## UDC's good idea

The University of DC last month came up with a novel way to get its downtown campus built despite budget cutbacks and congressional opposition. Under the plan, half the downtown campus site would be leased to private developers for office and hotel construction who in turn would build a \$40 million complex for UDC. Initially, the developers would lease the land from the city and collect rent from UDC with the result being a net balance in the city's favor. After a set number of years, the lease agreement would expire and UDC would get the whole site -- both the private and educational segments.

In concept, the plan has similarities to that successfully used by George Washington University to expand its campus. In addition, GWU has been allowed to piggy back on DC's revenue bonding authority when and if the city gets it.

The plan would mean that UDC would get its long deferred dream of a downtown campus -- at no outlay to the city.

But what's good enough for GWU apparently is too good for UDC -- at least in the eyes of the Washington Post, which wasted no time jumping on the concept both editorially and through the offices of its architectural critic, Benjamin Forgey.

Editorially, the Post argued that UDC hadn't proved it needed a second campus. Forgey went further, saying "Unfortunately, this half-loaf promises to be half-baked" and criticizing the aesthetics of buildings he (or anyone else) has yet to see. No matter. Forgey just knows in his heart that UDC's buildings are going to be ugly and says that design is hardly mentioned in the prospectus and then in a way "that guarantees depressing mediocrity."

The issue of whether UDC needs a second campus is vastly changed if building one requires no cash outlay by the city. In fact, the Van Ness campus is inconvenient to many of UDC's students, the university does need added space and the downtown campus would probably have been built by now had not the unnecessary merger that created UDC taken place.

Further, the UDC downtown scheme could represent the first time in the recent history of downtown development that black Washington stands to gain something significant from all the financial and planning manipulations that have been so assiduously fostered. This is not one of Marion Barry's rent-a-black-equity-partner gimmicks, but a solid device by which the citizens of Washington could share in the downtown bonanza. If it can be made to work financially, it is in symbol and fact of tremendous significance.

The opposition of the Post to the idea also has significance because it suggests that the Daily Dirge's downtown concepts are even more hopelessly in the pocket of the Board of Trade and a handful of speculators than even we, in our normal paranoia, had

expected. For the Washington Post to have cheered on virtually every rip-off of downtown by the development lobby for all these years and then to deny UDC one tiny piece of the action is greed of the first water.

Forgey's moaning about violating "the sound advice of the District's own long-term planning projections" is pure hogwash. Not only are these plans in large part based on erroneous assumptions and values, the site in question has long been designated for use by UDC and what is being proposed is a realistic modification of what was originally planned.

Forgey quotes from planning documents like Jerry Falwell quotes from the Bible -- and to as good a use. At one point, he cites a piece of city hall fluff called "A Living Downtown" as saying, "District policy is to encourage appropriate residential development along the Massachusetts Avenue corridor." But the site in question was not laid aside for housing at all -- but for a campus.

Obviously, we would like to see UDC put up something attractive on the site. Based on what exists at the Van Ness campus there is little basis for Forgey or the Post to assume that UDC would violate the Washington skyline nearly as much as the Post's developer friends have. The Van Ness campus is no wonder, but neither is it a horror.

The issue is not aesthetics nor is it, as the Post would have us believe, the intrinsic value of the land -- for the Post has never applied this standard to the absurd write-offs given private developers by RLA. What this fight is really about is whether the conventional powers of downtown -- including the Board of Trade and the Washington Post, will give up the relatively small UDC site for public benefit or whether they will continue the battle against UDC's downtown campus until plans for it are scrapped -- at which point the good old boys can come in, pick it up and make it look like the rest of downtown.

## The phone bill hike

The fight against the phone company's outrageous rate hike proposal is not just a local battle. Phone companies across the country are engaged in similar stunts. Says Joe Waz of the National Citizens Committee for Broadcasting, "The phone company is trying to terrorize the Congress into thinking that such unbelievable rate hikes will be the inevitable result of any legislation that increases competition in the telephone business. When Washington consumers realize they are being used as pawns in the phone company's legislative games, you can expect consumers to make plenty of noise."

The phone companies, which now face significant competition in the long distance field, are trying to shift the cost of phone service from the long distance to the local caller. Both the rate hike (72% for the most common sort of local service) and the measured rate proposal (i.e. charging local calls by time) would accomplish this.

This is a fight everyone should join -- from ANCS to church organizations to the Democratic Party. Make no mistake about it: it's a big one.

## School wars (cont'd)

Once more we find the mayor doing battle against the public school system. We would have thought he'd have learned something from the last scrap, but no such luck. Gladys Mack, his budget director, has told the board of education that its \$289 million budget request is much too high and fails to take into account declining enrolments and other possible cost-saving measures. City hall gave the board a \$249 million planning mark last July.

If you accept the mayor's view of things, the school system over a period of three fiscal years should have been content with about a third of one percent annual increase in its budget.

Meanwhile city revenues have risen at an average rate of about ten percent and the school system's 1983 FY 1983 request represents only a six percent annual increase since FY 1980.

The mayor's plan (unfortunately reflected similarly in his approach to recreation and libraries) seems to be to hit hardest those segments of government he perceives to be politically the weakest. His approach not only ignores inflation, it also ignores need.

While it's true that school enrollment is declining it is also true that the city's population is declining, a fact not notable in the rest of the city's budget.

Additionally, this incessant talk about closing underused schools -- repeated again by Mack, ignores the minimal savings involved (about \$100,000 a year per school) and the cost-effectiveness of the quality of education provided by many of these small schools. The real inefficiency in the system's physical plant is in some of the big new schools that were overbuilt during the Walter Washington era.

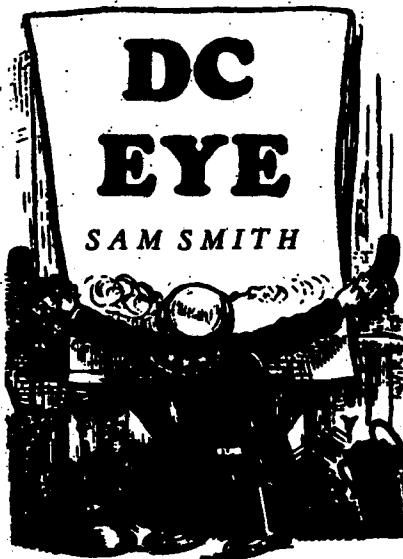
We will undoubtedly find ourselves in the midst of another tedious battle over the school budget this year. The mayor, however, should keep in mind that he is none too popular in the school community as it is, and yet another assault on the schools could give many a good reason not to vote for him next fall.

If you go bankrupt in DC, you can exempt a mule, sewing machine and crops from your creditors's demands, but not a home, wheelchair or child support-payments. Dave Clarke has proposed to do something about this anachronism by introducing an exemption act that follows the form of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. Under Clarke's bill, \$12,000 of a homeowner's equity would be exempt from garnishment as would burial plots, necessary health aids, social security, health insurance benefits and veterans' benefits.

I hate to bring up the Janet Cooke affair again, but Chip Berlet, writing in Alternative Media, has provided some interesting historical background. During the 1975-77 strike against the Post by the pressmen, the Post nominated for a Pulitzer articles on the strike by its reporter Robert Kaiser. Berlet was coordinating publicity for the pressmen along with John Hanrahan, a former Post editor who refused to cross the picket lines.

At first, the Pulitzer Committee would not even confirm that the Post had nominated the articles, which the pressmen thought were biased and inflammatory. Hanrahan and Berlet got around the committee by sending their criticisms of the articles to each of the judges individually and Kaiser never got a prize. Their letter noted, "Given the specific inaccuracies of Kaiser's articles, and the overall anti-pressmen strategy publicly announced by the Post and implemented in the Post's news columns, it seems incredible that the Post would have the unmitigated gall to nominate its corporate propaganda for a Pulitzer Prize."

Berlet suggests one way the Pulitzer people could avoid such problems as the Kaiser nomination and the later Cooke af-



fair: "One easy solution would be to make available a list of Pulitzer nominations for written comments that would be attached to the entries screened by the jurors and acted upon by the advisory board which makes the final pick. Such an obvious move seems unlikely, which is a sad testament to journalism. \*\*\* If an article is truly Pulitzer material, it should withstand objective or subjective criticisms from sources outside the carefully sheltered jurors and advisors. What is everyone afraid of?"

The faculty at UDC has gone on the offensive with the school's board of trustees, calling for an increase in faculty participation in administrative decisions and adherence to "shared governance." The faculty senate sent around a "Dear Colleagues" letter that notes the university is looking for

a new president and that "Now is clearly the time for the faculty to become a truly unified body and assume its rightful position in the decision making process of the University." More, undoubtedly, to come.

The Gazette noted recently that the Community for Creative Nonviolence had started a campaign to get the name of a nuclear-armed and nuclear-powered submarine changed to something other than "Corpus Christi" or "Body of Christ." Since the drive started there has been growing support. Last month the general session of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops voted unanimously to call on the Navy to drop the name. In addition, 20 Episcopal bishops, more than 100 religious orders, convents and monasteries, as well as the United Church of Christ, the Unitarian Universalist Association, and the state legislature of Michigan have gone on record against the name. As recently as November 13, the Navy Department was saying it had no intentions of changing the name.

It's tax incentive time again, folks. You can't get through a decent mayoral campaign without them. Of course, it will only be suggested that you support them -- not get them. Tax incentives are not for ordinary voters; if individual taxpayers don't do right you just haul them into court or off to jail. Tax incentives are for people like the international bankers who have been suggesting to the Barry administration that local taxes would inhibit the city's development as an international commercial and financial center. Right on, says our mayor. So he's proposed to do away with all local taxes on income derived from international business transactions.

## 1981 ELECTIONS

WARD 2 BRD OF EDUCATION	16/ 16	WD 2 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	16/ 15	WD 4 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	19/ 19
I R. DAVID HALL	2961 45.5	I BARBARA MAGUIRE	2224 11.9	I CHARLES W. MASON JR.	3899 12.0
I MARJORIE MACEDA	805 12.3	I ALEXA FREEMAN	1982 10.5	I AMANDA AMY HATCHER LYON	1507 4.6
I ALAIRE RIEFFEL	2665 40.9	I BRIAN P. MOORE	1647 8.8	I GREGORY A. ROWE	1860 5.7
I WRITE-IN	70 1.0	I STAV STEFAN	655 3.3	I BLONDINE C. HUGHES	1960 6.0
I AT-LAR BRD OF EDUCATION	137/137	I DONALD DINAN	1519 8.1	I KELVIN YOUNG	2388 7.3
I DOT CRESSWELL	3580 2.6	I RALPH B. BRISTOL JR.	620 3.3	I JANETTE HOSTON HARRIS	2837 8.7
I KATHRYN L. MOORE	5874 4.3	I WESLEY LONG	1999 10.7	I JEANETTE FEELY	2557 7.8
I ERNEST B. MERCER	3970 2.9	I FRANK SEWELL	608 3.2	I VICKIE STREET	6571 20.2
I BARBARA LETT SIMMONS	22934 16.9	I JOAN E. GILDEMEISTER	708 3.8	I JOHN C. EASON JR.	1591 4.9
I PHYLLIS E. YOUNG	18116 13.3	I EVA PERNELL BRITT	569 3.0	I C. MICHAEL M. BURTON JR.	1706 5.2
I TRUMMIE CAIN	816 .6	I EUZENE W. ALSTON	704 3.7	I ALVIS V. ADAIR	2389 7.3
I JAMES (BIFF) CARTER JR.	2404 1.7	I JANE KEVOREN DENISON	917 4.9	I WILLIAM B. COOPER	2563 7.9
I FRANK P. BOLDEN	10328 7.6	I MICHAEL SLOSS	694 3.7	I WRITE-IN	574 1.7
I ANDREA GONZALEZ	2038 1.5	I CHARLES RICHARDSON JR.	1253 5.7	I WD 5 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	16/ 16
I EDWIN C. PARKER	1619 1.1	I KAY MARLIN	547 2.9	I HARRY L. THOMAS	3780 15.6
I ANGIE KING CORLEY	2984 2.1	I KEN ROTHSCHILD	1773 9.5	I SAMUEL N. ROBINSON	2881 11.9
I FRANK SHAFFER-CORONA	2990 2.2	I WRITE-IN	113 .6	I NORMAN D. NIXON	2744 11.3
I CHARLOTTE R. HOLMES	3411 2.5	I AT-LAR STATEHOOD DELEGAT	137/137	I TALMADGE L. MOORE	3116 12.8
I DAVID EATON	23938 17.6	I CHARLES I. CASSELL	19078 10.5	I HARRY C. WHEELER	2506 10.3
I MANUEL B. LOPEZ	18721 13.8	I LILLIAN HUFF	15627 8.7	I LOUIS L. JENKINS	2541 10.5
I JONAS MILTON	2100 1.5	I JOSEPHINE D. BUTLER	16913 9.4	I ERVEST GERALD FAULKNER	1550 6.4
I BERLENE B. NEWHOUSE	3497 2.5	I JERRY A. MOORE JR.	26515 14.8	I FLOYD H. AGOSTINELLI	2257 9.3
I ATHEL Q. LIGGINS	5561 4.0	I BARBARA LETT SIMMONS	25310 14.1	I MICHAEL S. MARCUS	2656 10.9
I WRITE-IN	560 .4	I HILDA MASON	33892 18.9	I WRITE-IN	155 .6
I WRITE-IN	203 .1	I ED GUINAN	7735 4.3	I DAVID A. (DAVE) CLARKE	24612 13.7
I WARD 3 BRD OF EDUCATION	20/ 20	I JACKSON R. CHAMPION	8255 4.5	I WD 6 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	16/ 16
I MARY ANN KEEFFE	5294 33.0	I WRITE-IN	900 .5	I GERALDINE (GERRI) WARREN	2675 14.6
I WANDA WASHBURN	10685 66.6	I WD 3 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	20/ 20	I WILLIAM PAYNE	999 5.4
I WRITE-IN	53 .3	I	I CHARLOTTE R. HOLMES	1903 10.4	
I WARD 8 BRD OF EDUCATION	12/ 12	I GLORIA R. CORN	4991 14.5	I EDITH JOYCE CROMWELL	1146 6.2
I EDWARD H. MOORE	253 4.8	I FRANKLIN E. KAMENY	2628 7.7	I CAESAR L. MARSHALL	1232 6.7
I LINDA MOODY	885 16.8	I JOEL H. GARNER	3088 9.0	I DICK BROWN	1308 7.1
I PHINIS JONES	1147 21.8	I PHILIP G. SCHRAG	2864 8.4	I CHESTIE MARIE GRAHAM	1877 10.2
I ABSALOM F. JORDAN JR.	290 5.5	I DAVID K. SCOTT	1970 5.7	I JANICE (JAN) EICHORN	2837 15.5
I R. CALVIN LOCKRIDGE	2059 39.1	I STEPHEN JACOBS	1656 4.8	I G. TIMOTHY LEIGHTON	1075 5.8
I GORDON A. WHITE	72 1.3	I BIBIANA MAYS	2353 5.3	I HOWARD R. CROFT	2239 12.2
I O. V. JOHNSON	535 10.1	I DAVID H. MARLIN	2357 5.9	I CURRIN PRICE JR.	794 4.3
I WRITE-IN	18 .3	I BOB ROEHR	2637 7.1	I WRITE-IN	150 .8
I		I COJRTS DJLAHAN	3092 9.0	I	
I		I GARY ALTMAN	1912 5.5	I	
I		I LOU ARDICA	2162 5.3	I	
I		I RONALD M. ENG	2191 6.4	I	
I		I WRITE-IN	175 .5	I	

More 

## Vote cont'd

I WD 7 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	21/ 21
I JAMES W. BALDWIN	4502 19.1
I WILLIAM BLOUNT	3127 13.3
I DAVID M. BARNES	3255 13.8
I DARRELL R. MATTHEWS	2578 10.9
I JAMES H. HANNAHAM	1902 8.1
I JAMES E. TERRELL	3410 14.5
I SANDRA FORD JOHNSON	4528 19.2
I WRITE-IN	161 .6
I WD 8 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	12/ 12
I MARGI R. JENKINS	1061 8.8
I ART L. LLOYD	637 5.3
I MICHAEL A. WHEELER	980 8.1
I JAMES E. COATES	1927 16.0
I MILDRED J. LOCKRIDGE	2013 16.8
I ABSALOM F. JORDAN JR.	1212 10.1
I JOHN (TERRY) BLAKE	636 5.3
I CAROLENA KEY	751 6.2
I THERESA H. JONES	1621 13.5
I GWENDOLYN BLAKE PARAMORE	1085 9.0
I WRITE-IN	58 .4
I WD 1 STATEHOOD DELEGATE	17/ 17
I YOLANDA C. MONROE	1244 6.6
I RICHARD C. BRUNING	1506 8.0
I MARIE S. NAHAKIAN	2388 12.7
I ALLEN J. FISHBEIN	714 3.8
I MARK A. VENUTI	922 4.9
I ASTOR D. MOORE	1457 7.7
I CAMPBELL C. JOHNSON III	963 5.1
I JUDITH FREDETTE	670 3.5
I JIM CARR	657 3.5
I ANTONIO GRILLO	425 2.2
I B. HAROLD SMITH	853 4.5
I PETER M. SCHOTT	1072 5.7
I ANITA BELLAMY SHELTON	1847 9.8
I MAURICE JACKSON	1567 8.3
I ROBERT (BOB) E. LOVE	2021 10.8
I TOBA SINGER	287 1.5
I WRITE-IN	88 .4
I INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 7	137/137
I YES	9075 10.8
I NO	74835 89.1

Barry, of course, talks about new jobs and new business, but to put this tax incentive nonsense in a little perspective, you might wish to consider a recent report by an advisory group to the National Governors Conference. This group found that the proliferation of tax reductions by states to lure industrial development has had very little effect on where companies put their plants. State taxes were such a small factor that half the companies responding to a survey said they didn't even know that the incentives existed. Wrote Michael Kieschnick, who conducted the survey, "Tax incentives do appear to influence some firms, but very few. For the great majority, the reduced taxes represented a pleasant windfall."

This tax incentive talk does give the impression, of course, that governors and mayors are serious about providing jobs and helping the economy. It would be nice, however, if they could find some more useful fashion in which to express their concern than lifting taxes for international bankers.

Items you may have missed in the ebb and flow of great events at City Hall: The mayor has signed a bill that allows the private collection of slot machines which were manufactured prior to 1952 and which are not used for gambling purposes. And an amendment to the law authorizing certain persons to perform marriages offers us the official DC definition of religious: "Includes or pertains to a belief in a theological doctrine, a belief in and worship of a divine ruling power, a recognition of a supernatural power controlling man's destiny, or a devotion to some principle, strict fidelity or faithfulness, conscientiousness, pious affection, or attachment." It's a nice try, but it seems to me that Redskins season ticketholders are sufficiently within the last part of the definition to become a tax-exempt religious body and hold weddings on the fifty yard line.



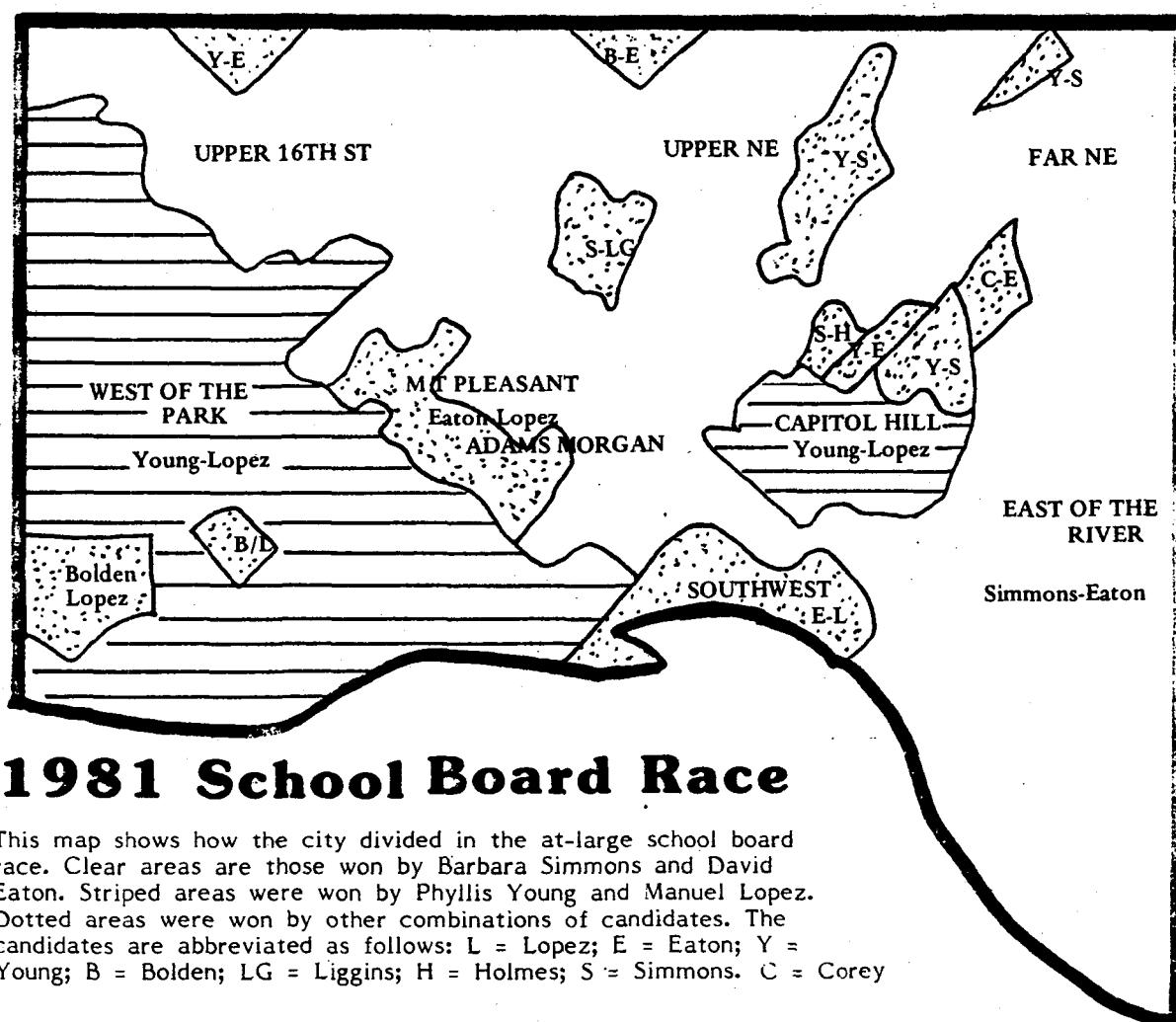
Carolyn White, riffed from the Economic Development Administration has taken the Reagan free enterprise message to heart and started a small T-shirt business with two other women. Their lead item: A Ronnie the Riffer shirt available in tan, maize and powder blue for \$6.50 each from Capitol-isms PO Box 5492, DC 20016. A Ronnie the Riffer poster is available for \$2.75 from the same location.

Much anguish among the city's archival set -- and ex-Star employees -- over the Post's off-hand attitude towards the Star morgue. A number of heavy institutions ranging from various universities and the Columbia Historical Society to the Library of Congress were angling for the invaluable archives, but they ended up as part of the Post booty. The danger is that the Post will consider much of the material superfluous to its needs and will chuck it. Historians agree that the material should be kept intact. A letter to Post publisher Donald Graham might help to save this priceless collection.

Last month, in paying tribute to black journalist Ike Kendrick and Howard's Channel 32, the Post noted editorially that "the contributions of the minority-owned media are valuable community institutions, adding an important dimension to coverage of the many faces of Washington." Elsewhere at the Post, apparently, they feel differently. The Post manages to omit Channel 32 from its television listings.

Since we soon won't have Frank Shaffer-Corona to kick around any more, it's hard to tell what the local media do for education coverage. I always regarded Frank as an under-achiever, a bright and perceptive person who, unfortunately, got show biz and politics mixed up. Undoubtedly, some of this had to do with his personality, but I would also offer as a theory that the media which criticized him so much also played a part. Politicians are a little like children; if the only way they can get attention is to act up, they'll act up. Frank got attention by being outrageous and the media did nothing to discourage him. Isn't funny how Frank's phone calls got more attention than the mayor's junket to Las Vegas for the Leonard-Hearns fight? Anyway, as the Gazette's farewell to Frank, you'll find elsewhere his thoughts on school closings. Forget about the long-distance charges to Iran and read it.

There's a sad story making its way through the local courts. It's the saga of a place called the Potomac School of Law. More than 600 students plunked down some \$3.5 million to go there, it had several well-known local judges on its board and faculty, but in the end it was never accredited and it filed for bankruptcy. The various suits and counter-suits resulting from this affair are too complex to describe here. But the fact that it was possible for so many students (and law students at that) to be misled and let down suggests strongly that the city council and mayor should consider ways to prevent it happening again.

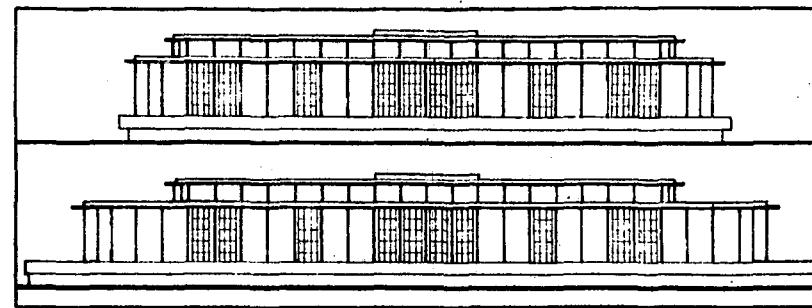


This map shows how the city divided in the at-large school board race. Clear areas are those won by Barbara Simmons and David Eaton. Striped areas were won by Phyllis Young and Manuel Lopez. Dotted areas were won by other combinations of candidates. The candidates are abbreviated as follows: L = Lopez; E = Eaton; Y = Young; B = Bolden; LG = Liggins; H = Holmes; S = Simmons. C = Corey

In the at-large school board race, Barbara Simmons and David Eaton took most of the city east of Rock Creek Park with the exception of Mt. Pleasant, Adams Morgan and Southwest (where Manuel Lopez beat out Barbara Simmons) and Capitol Hill which was taken by the Young-Lopez combination. A scattering of other precincts went to other combinations of candidates. Young and Lopez took most of Ward Three and Capitol Hill.

In the three ward school board races, Wanda Washburn took all of Ward Three against Mary Ann Keefe with the exception of the east side of Georgetown. Alaire Rieffel was beaten by David Hall except in the Dupont Circle-Downtown-Foggy Bottom area. Calvin Lockridge took all of Ward Eight's precincts except for Bolling Air Force Base.

## Ice cube of the month



The drawing at bottom is how the architectural firm of Hartman/Cox suggests the Kennedy Center should be enlarged in order to provide more parking and a national conservatory of music. The new building would be approximately one-seventh of a mile in length --which is impressive, although far short of Roger Stevens's long-range plan to have the Big K linked to the south with the Lincoln Memorial and to the north with the Cellar Door.

In October, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that it would clean up 114 top priority hazardous waste sites under its Superfund program. News coverage in various cities (Seattle, Minneapolis, Houston, San Francisco, Miami) followed a pattern: some discussion of the national situation and details on sites in the local area or state. The Washington Post didn't follow the crowd, however. Its story was about the big picture: the Superfund, which states had the most hazardous sites, and the national "top ten." It ignored the local angle, which is the Fort Lincoln Barrel Site containing about 550 drums containing solvents, inks and dyes. A joint EPA-DC Environmental Services study found minor soil contamination but as yet no evidence of groundwater or surface water contamination. -- BOB ALPERIN

Since Benjamin Forgey is doing a slightly better job overall than his predecessor at the Post, Wolf the Wrecker, it should be noted that despite his silly comments on UDC (see City Desk) he sometimes hits the mark. For example, he recently suggested that "The time has come to consider the unspeakable, fix up the [Whitehurst] Freeway, learn to love it." In an interesting letter to the Post, former transportation director Jim Clark backs up Forgey noting that replacing the

elevated freeway with a surface "boulevard" is not realistic. Said Clark: "A surface boulevard would need to rise more than 50 feet to reach Key Bridge. That means another elevated roadway for part of the distance. No connection to Key Bridge would mean more traffic on M Street. This is an ugly thought. And what kind of impact will be rationalized for those portions of the C&O National Historical Park that are

certain to be disturbed? A \$200,000 demolition study is the last thing we need." Clark suggests fixing up the freeway, perhaps using Arthur Cotton Moore's idea of continuing the form of the Key Bridge arches for its facade. Personally, I've long been a member of the love it and leave it bloc. As someone once said, all you have to do to appreciate the Whitehurst Freeway is to think of it as the Eiffel Tower on its side.

## ALTERNATIVES TO CLOSING SCHOOLS

We are all aware that school enrollments have declined, precipitating excess space in some schools while causing us to close others, and return a number to the D.C. Government's Dept. of General Services. This problem is not unique to the District of Columbia, but in fact is being faced across the country—in urban, rural, small and large communities alike.

One serious complication is the fact that the National Institute of Education is predicting an increase in the school-aged population in the latter 1980's. This, of course, makes it wise to retain buildings to accommodate that increase. Because of our limited boundaries and lack of underdeveloped land here in the District, we are particularly concerned that if we once lose our schools, we will never again have the flexibility to deal with predicted increases in the school-aged population except at a prohibitive cost.

We are faced with a particularly serious problem here in the District of Columbia. The recurring budget crises make it imperative that the most efficient use of our buildings be made that is consistent with the effective education of our children. At the same time the population shifts that are now occurring in the District make it particularly difficult to predict what our needs may be 10 years from now.

Frequently, when the problem is mentioned, the discussion has centered around the idea of school closings. However there are many other complex factors to be considered.

One idea to consider is that of turning schools with excess space into mixed use, joint occupancy school/community centers which operate year round from six in the morning to eleven in the evening. Thus, space temporarily or even permanently unneeded for school purposes can be made available to community agencies, public, private, non-profit, and for profit groups to the mutual benefit of all concerned. The point is to plan how to share school space and facilities not just after school hours, but

all day long with extra classroom space used for day-care centers, programs for the elderly, health clinics, social services, adult and continuing education, or even rented out for educationally compatible commercial operations.

Non-classroom facilities are already made available through the Dept. of Recreation. The school can then continue to provide educational services since the cost of maintaining the excess space is no longer paid for by the school system. If the population in the neighborhood increases, then the space leased or rented can be reclaimed for educational purposes. The range of community agencies and other activities is limited only by the neighborhood needs and a philosophical decision as to what is compatible.

Paul Lawrence Dunbar Community High School in Baltimore, Md. includes a wide range of educational, social, and recreational programs that are available for joint participation by adults and students. Activities operate before, after, and during regular school hours and include:

- A cultural arts program - offering classes in crafts, dance, music, film making, photography, and theater.
- Community recreation program which offers all forms of indoor and outdoor recreation including camping.
- Dunbar City Hall Office functions as a local branch of the Mayor's office.
- Social Service Office - provides counseling, information, public assistance programs, food stamps, and medical assistance.
- A day care center for preschoolers.
- Harbor City Learning Center - an alternative high school.
- Social Security Office administering retirement benefits, survivors, liability, and health insurance programs.
- Manpower Office providing skills, training, job development, and placement services.
- Legal Aid Office - providing legal services and

representation in court for low income families.

- A youth services center providing counseling and guidance services for children from 7-18.

Although programs can operate quite separately under the same roof, educational programs can be developed that merge compatible school and community activities. For example, a day care center using space in a school could also serve as a practical laboratory for junior and senior high school students studying child development and psychology. Secretarial positions in community agencies operating in school space could be filled on an internship basis by students participating in office management and business courses, thereby giving students the practical experience so necessary to get a job. Meals for the elderly could be planned, prepared, and served by high school students taking home economics and food management.

The mixed school/community center improves the quality of life in the community, and serves a broad range of community needs. In several of the suburban jurisdictions parents and the community have banded together to develop comprehensive area plans, rather than wait for plans to be imposed upon them from above.

One issue that is of current concern is the idea of saving on school space by adopting a concept of lower schools with K through 8 and then high schools with 9 through 12. An alternative suggestion is to have K-4, then middle schools with 5-9, and high schools with 10-12. It has been suggested that the D.C. Public Schools should adopt one pattern or the other. However, that kind of inflexibility may not be necessary. It is entirely possible that one region might prefer one solution and another region the other. This is an appropriate topic for inclusion in any community involvement activities, and there are undoubtedly other major topics of similar importance.

—From a report by DC School Board member Frank Shaffer-Corona

# 15 YEARS AGO

## in the pages of the Gazette

The School Action Council for Capitol East has urged the District Commissioners to seek restoration of funds for the expansion of Hine Junior High School. The action places SACCE at odds with the Capitol Hill Community Council, which led a successful fight to have an appropriation for this purpose removed from the District budget during the final moments of the last session of Congress.

In testimony at a budget hearing before the Commissioners, Pete Ward of SACCE called upon the District to approve "adequate funds for the construction of an extension to Hine Junior High School adjacent to the present site, encompassing the whole of square 900."

In his statement Ward said:

"Hine is now overcrowded and urgently needs expansion. Some homeowners and realtors want the extension erected

**December  
1966**

at Barney Circle. We disagree. This new school would have no chance of being or becoming an integrated school. Under the Barney Circle plan, the present Hine would remain in an area which every year sees larger numbers of white families moving in. It might eventually become all white while the Barney Circle extension became all Negro. This racial gerrymandering is unthinkable."

The expansion of Hine has been most strongly opposed by those residents who would lose their restored houses as a re-

sult. They claim that the School Board misled them about its expansion plans. They also argue that the growth of Hine at its present site would threaten the life of the Eastern Market and that it would be better to build a school further to the east since there are more potential students there.

Shortly before we went to press, Capitol East poverty officials were told by the United Planning Organization to expect heavy cuts in funds for their local programs.

The slashes--perhaps running as high as 30%--are part of a nationwide retreat in the war on poverty ordered by its chief, Sargent Shriver, as a result of this year's congressional budgetary action.

## CITY LOG

### Transit

CONNECTICUT AVENUE: Thanks to protests by transit users and politicians, Metro has partially backed off of its plan to emasculate the L-route buses concurrent with the opening of the Van Ness extension of the subway. Under the new plan, effective January 31, all day lines will run as follows:

L2: Chevy Chase Circle to McPherson Square.  
L4: Chevy Chase Circle and Wheaton to Dupont Circle (Wheaton bus to be redesignated L6).  
L8: Aspen Hill to Dupont Circle.

In short all L bus service south of Dupont Circle will be eliminated except for the L3 and L9 buses for which there will be a surcharge, tentatively fixed at fifty cents.

### Economics

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT LOANS: The city last month made four loans totalling over \$200,000 under a new revolving loan fund. It is estimated that the loans will result in 140 new jobs. Recipients were a firm that conducts energy audits and weatherization service (Action Property Management), Capitol City Glass, D'Hani & Company (a janitorial and maintenance service firm) and Enviros Design Group (an interior decorating firm). Earlier the fund had backed a supermarket in Far NE. The market opened last summer and provides 40 jobs.

### Development

RHODES TAVERN: The Supreme Court rejected the last ditch appeal of Rhodes Tavern supporters last month, but the action generated considerable press attention around the country for the plight of the tavern. Supporters of Rhodes Tavern have collected some 7500 signatures on a petition to the Oliver Carr Company to urge it to save the building. Oliver Carr has said publicly that he will not start construction there for eighteen months. Meanwhile, supporters can write to any or all of the following and urge the saving of the oldest commercial building in downtown Washington:

- Oliver T. Carr Jr., 1700 Penna. Ave. NW, DC 20036
- The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, DC 20071
- Coy Eklund, President, Equitable Life Assurance Society 1285

Avenue of the Americas, New York City, NY 11019. (Equitable is the major financial backer of Carr).

ENTERPRISE ZONES: Although neither local nor national legislation has been passed, the city government has already designated five neighborhoods it would like to see established as enterprise zones. The areas include the New York Avenue and H Street corridors, 14th Street and Howard "Gateway" area, the SE-SW planning areas and the Far NE/Marshall Heights planning area. Meanwhile one of the authors of the federal legislation criticized the proposed local measure as emphasizing exemption from local regulations rather than, as in the federal measure, tax relief. A representative of Rep. Robert Garcia's office, said, "The [DC] bill is a good one, but it is mistaken in local deregulation."

As things now stand, the enterprise zones would likely constitute yet another boondoggle for the land-grabbers. As a recent letter for the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs put it, "one of the most significant problems with the urban enterprise zone concept is that most of its benefits will probably be captured by a small number of outside investors. As currently written, most enterprise zone bills contain substantial incentives for real estate developers, speculators, and other interests not likely to be found among the residents of the zones." The newsletter suggests ways in which enterprise zones might be converted into something useful to residents, but of course, it is not likely that much will be done along such lines.

WILLARD: The insurance company that Oliver Carr had hoped would finance the renovation of the Willard Hotel has backed out of the deal. Carr says he has obtained local short-term financing to tide him over until he can get permanent long-term financing. The insurance company was Equitable Life that has been a major backer of Carr-built projects in DC and is one of the great hidden forces behind the DC land grab of recent years. Said Gordon Clagett, vice president of Equitable, the Willard deal didn't look appealing because of economic conditions. He told the Washington Post: "Without a doubt, Equitable considers Washington to be one of our prime investment cities."

### The law

DC JAIL: The new DC Jail, opened five years ago, now has 18 percent more inmates than it was built to handle. The jail has 1600 inmates, or 250 more than it should have.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCHES: City hall reports that there are neighborhood watch programs covering more than 11,000 households now operating in the city. Those wanting to find out about the neighborhood watch program can call 727-4283.

## People

JOE DAVIS, hard-working tenants advocate and a member of the national steering committee of the Gray Panthers, died last month of a heart attack. Davis was a founder of the Citywide Housing Coalition and the Emergency Committee to Save Rental Housing. He was 72. We'll miss him.

FRANK GALLO has become executive director of the local chapter of ADA, replacing Gabe Sucher who left for Georgetown Law School. Gallo was formerly a legislative assistant for the local ACLU chapter and has worked with Barry Commoner and Ralph Nader.

DEARBORN LEAVES: Philip Dearborn, financial counselor to the mayor has returned to his job with the Great Washington Research Center. He was seconded to city hall to help straighten out the city's financial problems.

## Taxes

PROPERTY TAX FREEZE OPPOSED: Citizens for Fair Assessment has come out strongly against a property tax freeze as proposed by John Wilson (see November Gazette). CFA, a coalition of groups and individuals concerned about the administration of property taxes, charged that the bill would give a massive tax break to the owners of the most expensive homes in the city, would not give any long term or meaningful tax relief to other homeowners and would shift the tax burden to them, would freeze in place present inequities and encourage underreporting of sales prices. (889-0118 or 966-1383)

NEW TAX BILLS: Several new tax bills are under consideration by the city council. The homestead Exemption Increase Act, introduced by HR Crawford, would increase the present homestead exemption from \$9000 to \$18,000. The Senior Citizens Property Tax Relief Act, introduced by Betty Ann Kane, would freeze property assessments for persons 65 years or older.

## Politics

MAYORS RACE: Betty Ann Kane and John Wilson have joined John Ray in the race to unseat Marion Barry. Barry is showing no signs of giving up the ghost and has taken several steps to improve his image -- including the appointment of a press secretary and revival of the city hall newspaper. Ray, helped by ex-Barry organizer Bitsey Folger, is making inroads into Barry's old turf in Ward Three but Betty Ann Kane will find many friends there too. Kane is aided by good name recognition and a generally favorable reaction of voters towards her. Wilson says he's running a campaign that will emphasize city services, is rumored to be thinking about switching to the city council chair race later next year. Meanwhile, it is appearing less likely that Arrington Dixon or Charlene Jarvis will enter the contest and Sterling Tucker is said to be having problems raising funds. Over the long haul, it could come down to Ray, Kane and Barry.

## Cable TV

COUNCIL ACTION: A city council committee last month voted a plan for cable tv in DC that would restrict the mayor's role in awarding the franchise. Says Barry press secretary, "Of course he thinks he's being frozen out." The council measure gives significantly more power to the council than Barry wanted, including granting consumer and public affairs committee chair Wilhelmina Rolark the right to appoint the chair of a fifteen member design committee. The bill's provisions includes these points:

- The franchise winner would have to hire minorities "proportionate with the minority population of the District."
- Ten percent of all channels would go to the city at no charge. These channels could be either leased to community groups and private institutions or used by the city itself.
- Council members can't have a financial interest in cable companies bidding for the franchise.
- The bill discourages the practice, common in other locations, under which cable tv companies offer stock to prominent citizens to help them obtain the franchise.

The bill comes up before the council, probably in January. Even if everything goes according to schedule, DC can't expect to have cable tv for many years. And given the rapid advances being made in satellite communications, the whole concept of cable tv might be archaic by then.

## Biking

BIKE CRACKDOWN URGED: The Washington Area Bicyclist Association has requested that the DC Police Department begin a campaign of ticketing bicyclists who operate their vehicles dangerously and illegally. Wrote WABA president Peter Harnik to Police Chief Turner, "We are painfully aware that too many cyclists ride in a manner that is unsafe, irresponsible and unlawful." Harnik said the major violations involve running red lights, wrong-way riding and nighttime riding without lights or reflectors. He added, "We are also very concerned about bike-pedestrian conflicts. Nothing sets back the growth of the cycling movement as much as animosity between riders and walkers." (393-2555)

## Environment

FLAT RATE FOR WATER BILLS?: Betty Ann Kane has introduced legislation that would eliminate individual meter readings and charge all residential customers a flat rate based on average water usage. Says Kane: "My experience in dealing with angry and frustrated constituents is that reading the meters right and sending out correct bills in a timely manner is apparently just too complicated for the city administration to deal with." Under Kane's proposal there would be a complete audit of water use and costs (which has not been done recently) and commercial users would still be charged variable rates. Kane points out that charging a flat tax would allow residents to deduct the item from their federal income tax.

THE DC ENERGY OFFICE faces up to a 64% reduction in staff due to the budget slashing of the Reaganists.

*Citizen groups working on local issues are invited to send us a monthly update and status report, so we can include the information in City Log. Please get it to us by the fifteenth of the month.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am not related to or even acquainted with any air controllers, I just detest counterfeit leaders and power-flaunting.

My grandpa, a well known (then) coal tycoon, had to deal with a tough union, and the rambunctious John L. Lewis. He would no more have thrown a tantrum and stomped off for a month's vacation than he would have tolerated luke-warm coffee.

On midnight my infant sister and I were being bundled into a car to escape strikers throwing rocks at our house. Grandfather came walking out of the dark somewhere and said (paraphrase), "All right, boys, that's enough. We'll all sit down and talk this thing out first thing tomorrow." And that was that. And that was a genuine leader with dignity as well as power.

A READER  
Cos. Cob, Conn.

November 3, 1981 is a date that always should serve to remind us of what can be done when we all pull together.

Initiative #7, the Tuition Tax Credit, was soundly defeated because we, as District citizens, cared very deeply about determining our own futures and clearly demonstrated that commitment at the ballot box. Public education has a renewed lease on life in our city because our citizens and their organizations were willing to spend the time and effort to thoroughly present the issues surrounding the initiative to the electorate. Furthermore, this broadbased supportive effort impelled citizens to make their voices heard at the polls.

Our lesson from this experience is vividly clear: we as individuals can and do make a difference in the world. We must be mindful of that fact as we move

forward together to improve our schools and our city.

The challenge before us now is to exercise the same united effort in making public education in the District of Columbia all that it should and can be. We in the public schools will do all we can to earn your support.

FLORETTA MCKENZIE  
Superintendent of Schools

EUGENE KINLOW  
President, DC Board of Education



# BULLETIN BOARD

Gay Women's Alternative is committed to bringing stimulating and informative programs—in a social atmosphere—to the lesbian community in the Washington, D.C. area. Programs include speakers and performers from the varied fields of business, literature, herstory, politics, theatre, science, music, etc.

GWA meets every Wednesday evening at 8:00 PM at the Washington Ethical Society, 7750 16th Street, N.W. Programs begin at 8:30 PM. A \$3.00 donation is requested.

Info: 979-4441, or write to: GWA-DC, Inc., Post Office Box 23769, Washington, D.C. 20004.

The Energy Extension Service is accepting applications from individuals and organizations for a new grant funding program for innovative energy conservation programs.

For application forms or for additional information, interested persons may call the D.C. Energy Hotline, 724-2100.

Wider Opportunities for Women, a nonprofit women's employment organization, offers a job search service in its Work Center, 1511 K Street, N.W., Suite 345.

The service includes: employment information, job leads, effective job search techniques, and noon-time seminars for job seekers. Professional assistance is available for resume preparation. Fees are modest. Info: 638-3065.

The Department of Recreation is seeking individuals who would like to share their skills, hobbies and free time with others to serve as volunteers with the day care program.

To become a day care volunteer, interested residents must be at least age 14 and be willing to work under the supervision of program directors. Some training in early childhood education is preferred, but not mandatory. All applications must complete a physical examination. Hours for volunteers are flexible, but volunteers are required to attend orientation sessions.

Persons interested in becoming a volunteer should contact: Mary McKey, volunteer coordinator, D.C. Department of Recreation, 3149 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20010, 673-7660. Info: Mary McKey, 673-7660.

The D.C. Department of Recreation, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, is offering cardio-pulmonary resuscitation classes for interested area residents.

The courses will be held in the Capital East Natatorium, 635 North Carolina Avenue, S.E. Each course will consist of two three-hour CPR sessions. The classes are scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. on the following dates: January 7 and 14, February 4 and 11, March 4 and 11, and April 1 and 8.

The cost of the course is \$4 per person, and registration will be held in the Natatorium. Info: 724-4495.

Free shots for protection against a variety of influenza are being offered to District residents at a number of Department of Human Services clinics.

The Department is offering vaccines to persons age 65 and older, as well as persons who have a chronic health problem, such as heart disease, chronic bronchitis, tuberculosis, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, anemia or cystic fibrosis. These residents are considered to be high-risk cases. DHS officials estimate that more than 90,000 District residents are in the high-risk category. Dr. Martin E. Levy, DHS' Acting Commissioner of Public Health, said U.S. Department of Health and Human Services records show that approximately 150,000 deaths occurred in the United States from 1968 to 1980 as a result of the influenza epidemics, many of which may have been prevented with proper vaccination.

Dr. Levy said that national studies conducted over the past several years indicate that vaccines protect 70 to 90 percent of those immunized against influenza. The studies also revealed that among the general population, the risk of dying from influenza is 400 times the risk of dying from the flu vaccine, while the risk of severe disease from flu is 20,000 times the risk of major disease from the flu vaccine. The ratios are even greater in the high risk group, Dr. Levy said.

The vaccine offered by DHS provides protection against the A/Brazil flu, A/Bangkok flu and B/Singapore flu.

"It is expected that these diseases will reappear in the United States and other countries in the Northern Hemisphere this fall and winter," he said. "In fact, during the flu season last year an outbreak of the Bangkok type was widespread in this area as well as other parts of the United States."

Shots are offered at the following DHS clinics from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekdays:

- Southwest Health Center  
850 Delaware Avenue, S.W.
- Walker Jones Health Clinic  
1st and L Streets, N.W.
- Anacostia Clinic  
1328 W Street, S.E.
- Congress Heights Clinic  
8th and Xenia Streets, S.E.
- Area C Chest Clinic  
Building 23 (D.C. General Hospital Grounds)  
19th and Massachusetts Avenue, S.E.

Children under age 13 are required to have a physician's note confirming that they are considered to be in the high risk category. Those children will be immunized at Health Center #17, located at 702 15th Street, N.E. Info: 673-6700.

The D.C. Department of Transportation invites individuals, community organizations and businesses to participate in the new Public Space Project. The project provides citizens and businesses the opportunity to improve their neighborhoods by working with DOT to care for and beautify small parks and parcels of land.

The location of these parcels and information about how to participate in the Public Space Project can be obtained by calling the staff of the project at 727-9639 or 727-5691.

*ITEMS to be included in the Bulletin Board should be typed double-spaced, and preferably should be one page or less. Submit by the fifteenth of the previous month to the DC Gazette, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009.*

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# THE REGION

## NAMING THE AREA

Leon A. LeBuffe, Jr.

In this area we have names commemorating people, birds, plants, friendship and death. Our places have Indian names, French names, Scottish names, English names aplenty—and even Hindi and Amazon Indian names. The reason for some names—*Rock Creek, Washington*—is obvious. The reason for others seems hopelessly obscure. What in the world is or was a Chevy Chase, Cabin John, or (for heaven's sake!) a Blue Plains?

Among our American Indian names is *Potomac*. In the language of its users, Indians who lived on the south side of the river around Great Falls, it meant "a place of much trading." Goods moved east-west by water, north-south by land. Indeed, it still is a place of much trading.

Henry Fleet was a fur trader in this area before it was settled by whites or blacks. He "Englished" the Indians' name for themselves: "Nascotines." Fleet led Leonard Calvert to the Nascotines' area, at the conjunction of the Potomac and its eastern branch. The Nascotines gave the English a hostile reception, so they turned around and went southeast, and in 1634 founded St. Mary's City, Maryland's first town. A few years later, Jesuit missionaries returned to the Nascotines and Latinized their name—to *Anacostia*. Captain John Smith, the first English explorer of the Potomac, noted a very large Indian village in Anacostia in 1608. It extended from the junction with the Potomac along the east bank almost to present day Bladensburg.

Other local names are the names of Indian tribes. *Nanticoke* and *Assateague* are examples. Most of these names mean essentially the same thing—"us-in's." One group of modern southern Marylanders of mixed Indian, Caucasian and African heritage still refers to itself as "Wesorts." If the name of an Indian tribe which the English first used came from the people themselves, it almost always meant something like "wesorts" or "we the people," or "the good people who live at the... place of much trading." If a tribe's English name came from its enemies, it usually meant "cutthroat" or "people who speak gibberish" or something not printable in a family magazine. *Anacostia*, however much it was Englished, falls into the first category.

Many more of our enduring names came from the first few generations of English settlers. *Marshall Hall*, the old amusement park site across the river from Mount Vernon, was the name of the manor granted to William Marshall in 1651. *Oxon Hill* was the name which the Addison family gave to its manor at about the same time.

The Addison's closest neighbor was George Thompson. He received 1,000 acres between Oxon Hill and the Anacostia River in 1662—part of the site of the large Indian village Smith had seen in 1608. (The Indians had gone west and north. Their descendants now live in Ontario.) Thompson named his manor *Blew Playne*. "Blew" was an archaic term even in his day. It meant "in bloom" or "fruited." Thompson had the original American fruited plain. Officials of today's sewage treatment plant might at least agree that *Blue Plains* is still at least potentially, fertile.

At about the same time—1669—ship captain

Robert Howsing received six thousand acres of land "upon the freshes of the Potomac River on the west side" in a grant from Governor Berkeley and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Ship captains often received grants of land for delivering indentured servants—English poor who signed up for seven years of servitude in exchange for passage from the poorhouses. Howsing, like most captains, wanted to liquidate his assets. So he sold the land for 6,000 pounds of tobacco to Captain John Alexander who had just surveyed it. One pound per acre—tobacco was good as gold in 1670. Alexander modestly named the estate *Alexandria*, and the older names Belhaven and Hunting Creek Warehouse fell into disuse, to emerge later as names of marinas, country clubs and developments.

In 1778, John Custis, son of Martha Washington and her first husband Daniel Custis, bought 1100 acres of Alexandria and named it *Arlington* in remembrance of the old Custis family mansion on the Eastern Shore. His son, George Washington Custis, built the "*Custis-Lee Mansion*" on the hill across the Potomac from the Lincoln Memorial. George Washington Custis's only child, Mary Ann, married the young, handsome Robert E. Lee in 1831. It was their home for almost thirty years. The word *Arlington* itself means "Place of the arling." "Arling," like "blew," was already an old-fashioned word in the 1600's when the first American Custis used it. It meant "wheatbird," a sort of catbird common in Europe. The original Eastern Shore Custis probably saw quite a few catbirds on his property, was reminded of his old world home and recalled the very old home name. Anyway "Arlington" has a nice ring to it.

By 1700, all of the land on the banks of the Potomac east of Great Falls had been granted to various individuals by the royal governments of Maryland and Virginia. In Maryland, these grants were usually in the form of thousand-acre "manors" granted by the Calverts, Lords Baltimore and Proprietors of Maryland. As time passed and Maryland became less and less Catholic, the Calverts' power declined. But they left their mark on the D.C. area. *Riverdale* was a Calvert family estate on the Anacostia flood plain. *Bladensburg* was named by Charles Calvert's daughter Eugenia in 1742 for Sir Thomas Bladen, the royal governor of Maryland. Eugenia knew that flattery could get you everywhere; she gave 60 acres for town with the sole proviso that it be called Bladensburg. The loser in this transaction was a Mr. Garrison who had an establishment at the head of navigation of the Anacostia in Bladensburg, which we now call Peace Cross. The place was called "*Garrison's Landing*" before Eugenia gave, with her one nominal condition, the sixty acres.

Other early manors were *Chillum* owned by the Digges family and *Friendship* (Heights) owned by the expansive Addisons. *Chillum* was contemporary slang for tobacco. So was the word "Oronoco" or "Oronohko" as in *Oronoco Street* in Alexandria. The Oronoco River, a tributary of the Amazon, supplied the original plants from which Americans grew the tobacco which Europeans vastly preferred to the

indigenous North American brand. And tobacco was the economic backbone of this area for a long time—almost to the time of the Revolutionary War. Poor farmers of the backcountry (any land not bordering navigable water was backcountry) rolled, pulled and pushed their tobacco to the water over Oronoco Road. So, an Amazon Basin Indian name came to adhere to a Washington area place.

*Chillum* comes from the Hindi word chilam. English and other European vessels delivered tobacco to the East where it was smoked in hookahs, water pipes. The locals called the guts of the pot where one placed the tobacco—or whatever—the chilam. By 1700, trendy English Americans called tobacco *chillum*, just as we today say "He spent the night in the hoosegow," borrowing and corrupting the Spanish word for jail (or outhouse) "husgado."

One seventeenth century "lord of the manor" with a sense of humor was Francis Pope. His manor was around the present Government Printing Office site on North Capitol Street. This Catholic Pope called his manor "Rome"—which didn't stick—and the creek that ran through the property "The Tiber," which did. Today Tiber Creek flows underground from Soldiers Home to the Potomac. It can be seen through a trap door in the basement of Gonzaga High School.

The name of Beall has been important in D.C. and Maryland for a long time. Perhaps it is fitting to round out this look at the seventeenth century by meeting the original. He was Ninian Beall who came to the colonies in the late seventeenth century as an indentured servant. Beall won great fame as an Indian fighter. (Maryland got off to a good start in Indian relations, but then blew it.) His reward: 795 acres of land on Rock Creek. He called it *Dumbarton* or *Dunbarton*. There has always been confusion about how to spell the word. Beall started life as a poor Scot. He may have wished to honor his homeland by referring to the Rock of Dumbarton, a shrine near Glasgow. Or he may have wished to substitute "n" for "m" to honor himself in a sly way—he was a hero of the Battle of Dunbar in present-day West Virginia.

The eighteenth century gave us some of our most famous names. In 1743 George Washington's brother Lawrence named the family digs *Mount Vernon* in honor of his old commander Admiral Edward Vernon of the British navy. And in 1721 Colonel Joseph Belt received the customary 1,000 acres from Lord Baltimore. He built a mansion very near the present intersection of Connecticut and Oliver, NW and called it *Chevy Chase*. The name itself recalls a particularly bloody border clash between English and Scots which occurred on the "chase" or hunting grounds in the Cheviot Hills in 1388. The Battle of Chevy Chase had something like 2,500 casualties out of 3,500 men engaged. In the 1890's Senator Newlands and Stewart chose the name of the old manor for their new and very ambitious suburban real estate venture—which was also fabulously successful. Belt's old plantation house was torn down in 1906, but his macabre, harmonious name survives and prospers.

Colonel William Fairfax built the *Belvoir* mansion (Fort Belvoir) in 1741. Col. Fairfax was a cousin

of the sixth Lord Fairfax, whose mother had brought all of Virginia's northern neck with her as dowry when she married. Mom was a *Culpeper*. Her father had received the huge grant from King Charles II as a reward for his loyalty to the king during his exile (1649-1660) when the Puritan Cromwell ruled.

The American Revolution, of course, ended the practice of naming places after English noblemen and noblewomen (e.g., *Princess Ann, Annapolis, Ann Arundel*). The Fairfax family fled well before the shooting started. Ironically enough, George Washington sold the Fairfax's slaves for them—and sent them the money in England. They lost their land, but the name endured.

In the nineteenth century, the English actor John Bernard wrote that "a mile's ride (around D.C.) was the most powerful experiment on one's anatomy a man could desire." Around Washington, he continued, insects and dust made the road unbearable when dry, while the slightest rain turned them into quagmires. Taverns offered the only relief; one of them was *Lanham's* on the road from Bladensburg to Annapolis. Others were the famous Rhodes Tavern in D.C. and Gadsby's—still going strong—in Alexandria.

Around 1800, Colonel Jehiel Brooks married Ann Queen and built a large Federal style home in Northwest. Five hundred yards behind his house was an overgrown area he called "*The Turkey Thicket*" where he liked to hunt. Catholic U. students and all serious city basketball players know where that is—at the large playground at 10th and Michigan, Northeast. In 1887, Colonel Brooks' heirs sold 134 acres of the family land to developers who named the new area *Brookland* in honor of the family. Brooks' house, doubled in size by late nineteenth century additions, stands boarded up on Monroe Street between 9th and 10th. It has been a school, a convent and a seminary for Marist priests, the Benedictine Sisters and the Order of St. Anthony (though not concurrently, of course). Col. Brooks' name now adorns the spiffy new tavern in an old building very near the Metro stop and across the street from the house he built 180 years ago.

Presidents and other strange creatures have given their names to parts of our town. President Glover Cleveland leased what he called his summer house between 35th and 36th Streets at Newark Northwest during his first administration. The house, known as "Red Top" was torn down in 1927. By that time, President Cleveland's former neighborhood was well known as *Cleveland Park*. By that time, too, maps showed "*Cabin John*" a few miles up the Potomac from Georgetown. "*Cabin*" is an odd corruption of the word captain. Captain John was a rather fearsome hermit variously reported to have been a pirate, an Indian chief and an English soldier-deserter. He lived in a hut on the banks of Cabin John creek in the mid 1700's. Rumors that Captain John had buried treasure, rumors heightened by the marginally successful gold mine near Great Falls, were so strong that well into the twentieth century real estate closings for Cabin John property included negotiations of the percentage of discovered gold to be kept by the property buyer or returned to the seller.

And in closing, the Watergate. The Water Gate is actually the very long set of monumental steps reaching from the plaza between the Lincoln Memorial and the entrance to the Arlington Memorial Bridge and the Potomac. It was originally christened the "Ceremonial Water Gate." It was the site of concerts by the National Symphony and various military and other bands from its opening in 1931 until not too long ago. The Water Gate was intended as a monumental welcoming place for visitors—especially dignitaries—arriving by water to see the Mall and the Lincoln Memorial. FDR used it extensively for this purpose. Further up the river is the modern Watergate complex. Across the street is the Howard Johnson hotel. The rest is history—we hope.

It seems curious how some place names grow in importance while others die. And some just don't catch on. Take but one example:

What do the late, great Duke Ellington and the Comte de Rochambeau (the French general with Washington at Yorktown) have in common? This: they both have bridges named for them (Calvert Street, 14th Street)—and almost no one knows it.

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# THE IMPORTANCE OF FEDERAL BARGAINING

## Irving R. Richter

Last August, Walter Shapiro wrote an article, "Federal Unions: Let them strike, or get rid of them," for the *Washington Post*. The article was interesting, useful and provocative. But seen as a social issue in historical context, the problem is really not quite as simple as Shapiro represented it.

Shapiro was a management representative of the Labor Department. He dealt with Local 12 of the American Federation of Government Employees. His article had the ring of authority. Still, his article recalls Walter Lippman's generalization about the newspaper accounts of the 'The Labor Problem':

The make molehills out mountains and mountains out of molehills.

Shapiro derided the significance of the 1962 executive order which for the first time established the principle of collective bargaining for federal government employees, with a provision for impartial and binding arbitration for grievances that reach the stage of impasse. When seen in historical perspective, this was a considerable achievement, a *mountain* for federal workers, including Labor Department employees.

In the late 1930s and early 1940s it was virtually impossible to bargain with the then Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins. I vividly recall, as President of Labor Department Local 12 (then United Public Workers - CIO) leading the executive committee of the local to her office and then literally chasing her to the elevator when she went out her back door to escape seeing us. We never were able to negotiate a contract with Madame Perkins.

Certification, recognition, collective bargaining with elected representatives of the employees, as well as an arbitration clause—all this followed President Kennedy's Executive Order of 1962.

Of course, collective bargaining is not the solution to all labor problems. Nor is arbitration. Yet these processes do represent a quantum change when compared to the preceding era, when the management side could exercise power without significant check. Collective bargaining in the government sector, as in the private sector, represents some transfer of power from the employer side to the employee side.

Arbitration has its faults. It certainly doesn't tilt in favor of labor, as Shapiro seemed to imply. My own guess is that the aggregate number of government arbitrations—federal, state and local—would show roughly equal awards for the two sides.

After noting that JFK's executive order "formally gave federal unions the right to bargain collectively," Shapiro (fashionably) dismissed it as a "classic well-intentioned liberal gesture." This conclusion recalls

similar comment made in the media and some textbooks about the National Labor Relations (Wagner) Act of 1935, before it was emasculated in 1947 by the Taft-Hartley Act. The Wagner Act was widely portrayed as a liberal New Deal gesture, bestowed from on high as a favor to the unions. That act was more deeply rooted: first, in the long history of workers struggling to gain industrial democracy; second, in the great wave of largely spontaneous strikes and worker protest in the early 1930s. The Wagner Act did benefit unions by declaring collective bargaining to be public policy. But it provided also an orderly process to workers for selecting "representatives of their own choosing" at the workplace. And as the government's brief to the Supreme Court emphasized, such a policy would reduce the interruptions to interstate commerce brought about by strikes for recognition.

When President Kennedy issued his executive order in 1962, liberalism was in retreat. The New Deal was dead. Who knows what factors entered into the president's decision? On historical grounds, it cannot be viewed as merely a "liberal gesture." A realistic analysis would have to include the following contemporary labor developments: widespread strikes by teachers and other public employees at local and state levels; greatly expanded strike activity by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (for a time the largest and fastest-growing affiliate of the AFL-CIO); growing militancy among federal employees, especially among blacks. In addition, well before JFK's "liberal gesture," many local and state jurisdictions—under Republicans and Democrats—had already created their own agencies for certifying employee organizations and regularizing collective bargaining. Most included provisions for arbitration of grievances.

Shapiro noted an important missing ingredient in federal bargaining, the absence of the right to strike. Most democratic, industrialized countries accord the right to strike to public employees. The United States does not. But I question whether the average *Post* reader would see this article as an argument for extending strike rights to government workers. Instead, given the article's emphasis on abuses created by JFK's "well-intentioned" executive order, Shapiro may have given a perhaps unintended weapon to current opponents of industrial democracy.

Irving R. Richter is an arbitrator and an economics professor in the Urban Studies Department of the University of DC.

## THE IDEA MILL

FICTION WORKSHOP: Peter Meinke, author and poet, will be holding a workshop in fiction writing next spring at George Washington University. The workshop is free and GW is especially looking for students with little formal education or who are elderly or are too poor to pay tuition. The workshop is open to fifteen students and applicants need not have any academic qualifications. To apply, send a letter stating name, address, telephone number, age and brief personal history. Enclose a ten to twenty-five page sample of your fiction (cannot be returned) and submit by January 5 to Department of English, GWU, DC 20052

A NEW JAZZ CLUB, Ibex, has opened at 5832 Georgia Ave NW at the corner of Missouri. The club features jazz musicians of national fame including Johnny Griffin, Pharoah Sanders, Roy Haynes, Nat Adderly and Gloria Lynne. It's open Wednesday through Sunday from nine pm on. Call 726-1800 for reservations.

# REGIONAL NOTES

**BIKE NOTES:** The Montgomery County Department of Transportation is requesting that anyone knowing of an unsafe grate in the county report it to Chips Johnson at 251-2145 so these grates can be replaced with safe ones.

• COG has prepared several documents of interest to bicyclists. The reports cover local bicycle programs, the status of bikeway facilities and bicycle elements of local transportation contingency plans. Info: Tom Montanio, COG, 1875 Eye St. NW (#200) DC 20006.

**VIRGINIA BOTTLE BILL SOUGHT:** Virginians for Returnables is working for container deposit legislation which would provide for a minimum deposit of 5 or 10 cents on all beer and soft drink containers. A returnables bill will be introduced in the next session of the General Assembly. Info: Virginians for Returnables, PO Box 69, Richmond, Va. 23201

**RECYCLEWORKS** is a new non-profit organization that recycles scrap materials to be used as art/craft supplies and minor home furnishings for organizations and do-it-yourself consumers. Operating out of 132 N. Washington St, Falls Church, Recycle-Works has been sending out the word to area merchants that it needs their throwaways -- clean scrap materials or discontinued items. The response, says director Peggy Smith, has been "overwhelming." Among the items received has been formica scrap for table tops from Laminates Unlimited, a mountain of scrap leather from Georgetown Leather Design, fabric remnants and foam rubber from Nelson Beck, vinyl flooring from Billy's Floors of Fairfax and plastic tubs and mushroom baskets from Joe Theisman's restaurant. Info: 241-0444.

## Sharing a home

If you're looking for a place you can afford to live in, or for somebody to share your home with you, "Operation Match," a new home-sharing program getting started in the Washington area, may be able to help.

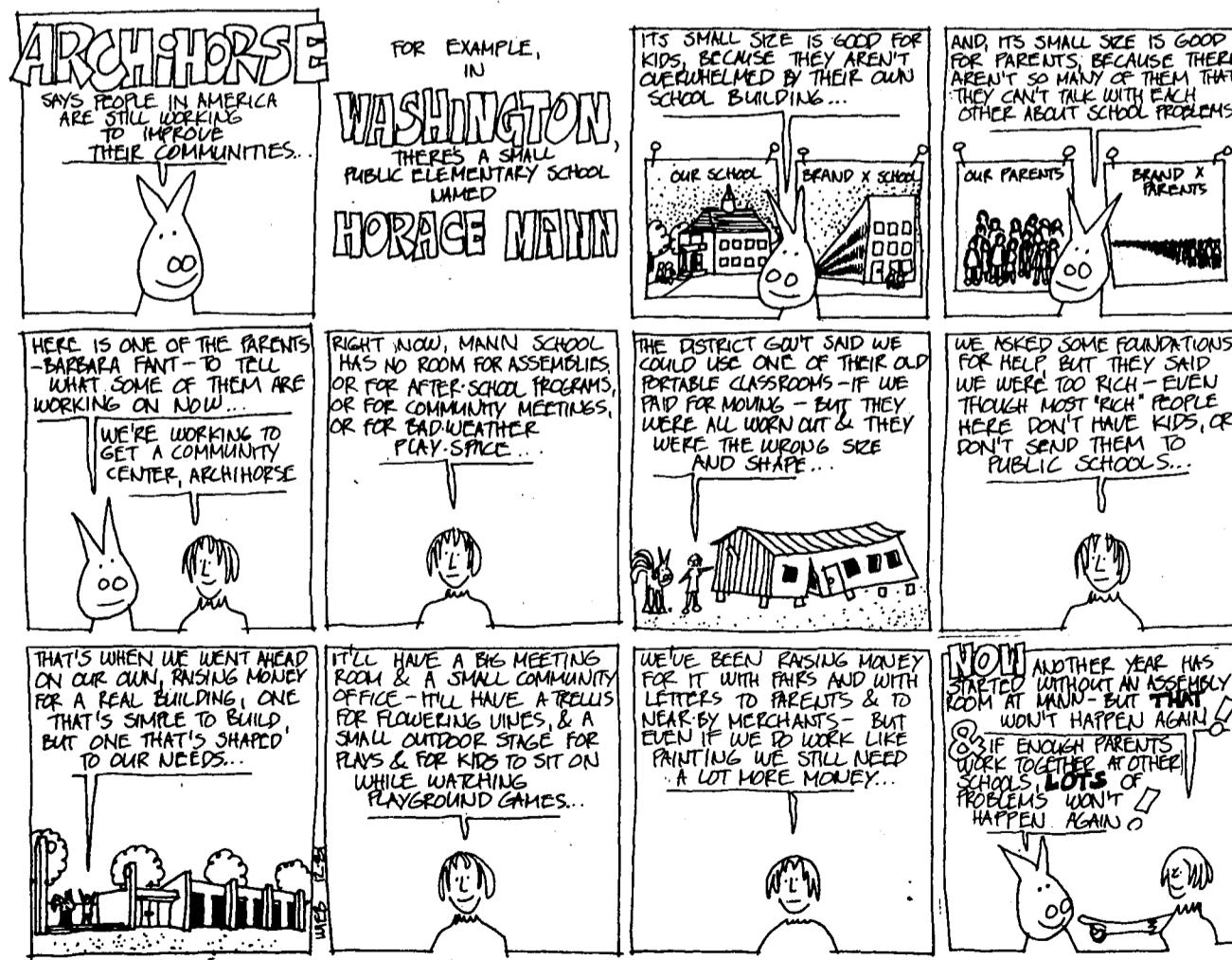
"Operation Match" brings together those who have space in their homes with those who are looking for housing. It makes it possible for homeowners to receive some additional income or help around the house and provides housing for those on a limited budget.

The program, being coordinated through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, is already underway in Montgomery County and is being extended to the District of Columbia and six other suburban cities and counties.

Due to the home sharing nature of the program, "Operation Match" works best for small families composed of one or two persons. Under the program, local housing specialists trained by the Council of Governments match those with homes or apartments to share at reasonable rent with those looking for housing. In some instances room and board may be offered in exchange for personal services such as after-school child care, preparation of the evening meal, care of the elderly or handicapped, or work around the house.

"Operation Match" is a free public service, open to those 18 and over who are looking for housing in the District of Columbia, Alexandria, Falls Church and Arlington, Loudoun, Montgomery, Prince George's or Prince William Counties. There are no sex, racial or income eligibility limits. For more information on the program call the special "Operation Match" telephone number in your community or call the Council of Governments at 223-6800, Extension 423.

Alexandria	838-4545
Arlington County	558-2946
District of Columbia	535-1595
Falls Church	532-3344
Loudoun County	(703) 777-0389
Montgomery County	565-5778
Prince George's County	336-2241
Prince William County	(703) 368-2426



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Archihorse, who hardly ever takes note of what the editor says or thinks, offered at a recent silent auction for the Horace Mann School to incorporate the winning bidder's ideas into a comic strip. Further, Archihorse is sometimes the equine equity partner of John Wiebenson, an architect who has been known to work on school projects. Your editor considers this all a gross conflict of interest, but since he liked the strip anyway, he decided to put his concern away in the office safe and forget about it.

# ON HARRY GOLDEN

## Richard King

Every self-styled writer or intellectual has a pantheon of intellectual heroes who hover somewhere in the mind as admonitory voices and inspiring presences. Mine, I suppose, would include Albert Camus, William Faulkner, Sigmund Freud, Max Weber and Hannah Arendt.

The recent death of Harry Golden and Ed Yoder's fine piece on Golden in the *Post* (October 9) reminded me of that there is also a special niche in my pantheon reserved for the author of *Only in America, For 2¢ Plain, Enjoy, Enjoy* and other such weighty classics. Golden would probably be surprised—and also, I hope, pleased—to find himself in such august company in anyone's intellectual hall of fame. But there was something about the kind of life he lead that "took" on me and got me into the line of work I'm now in—writing with occasional stabs at thinking. It all crystallized one bright afternoon in May, 1963 when a group of us travelled from Chapel Hill to Charlotte, North Carolina to spend a few hours with Golden, a native New Yorker who had adopted the so-called "Queen City" as his base of operations.

As Yoder notes, no one was quite sure how Golden had found his way to the Carolina Piedmont. Indeed if one deliberately sought out a city least like New York, then Charlotte would have come immediately to mind. But there he was, publishing the *Carolina Israelite* and making his good-natured, but incisive presence felt. For Golden was an "integrationist" in a genteel, but nevertheless resolutely segregated North Carolina. And though his analyses were always leavened with plenty of irony and just plain fun, Golden still challenged the reigning pieties of respectable and disreputable

Southern racism. If that were not enough, he was a Jew and made no bones about it.

Looking back, this fact is in many ways the most interesting thing about Golden. Southern Jews have never been large in number and it should also be said that southern anti-semitism has traditionally been a half-hearted, intermittent affair. And though not exactly a favored minority, Jews have never been the objects of sustained insult and were known to make their way quite well, particularly in the urban centers of the upper south. The fascinating thing about Golden was that he was an honest-to-God New York Jew and never tried to disguise the fact. His columns in *The Israelite* spoke of bagels and Bintel Briefs as much as they analyzed the simmering southern racial crisis. And while Golden could have named his paper something innocuous like *The Carolina Journal* or *The Spectator*, he chose instead to name it *The Israelite*! In retrospect there was something deliberately anachronistic about the name; it might have been sneeringly pinned on Golden by a local Klansman with pretensions to literacy.

The importance of Golden's paper lay in several areas. First it was a voice of genial enlightenment on race, but one that was blessedly free of the wan, porridgy pieties of southern moderates who strove mightily to accomodate change without offending—or inspiring—anyone ever. At Chapel Hill I subscribed to *The Israelite*, perhaps in self-defense, since my roommate there was a regular reader of *Human Events*, a conservative publication that makes Buckley's *National Review* read like a trot-skyite rag. Second, *The Israelite* was my first contact—and I suspect this was true for other southern "gentiles"—with what later would be called

"ethnic" consciousness. This is hard to imagine in our post-*Fiddler on the Roof* world when even Safeway sells bagels and Yiddishisms have become common, even worn-out conversational coin. But in the early 60s in the south—by national reckoning somewhere around the mid-50s—pride in ethnicity was an education in itself. Blacks are not the only southerners who have been taught to be ashamed of their roots.

Third, Golden's writing represented a rare kind of personal journalism, at least in my neck of the woods; and his paper was the closest equivalent in the world of the printed word to the corner store or the small business at its best. (Washingtonians, and particularly readers of *The Gazette*, still know the vital importance of this kind of one-man operation.) At this stage in my life, it was good to "hear" a distinctive written voice, one that didn't have the formulaic blandness of the wire services or adopt the pontifical sogginess of a Severeid or Lippman.

(It is important to note here that the last few years have seen the resurgence of something akin to the one-man newspaper—the personal essayist. Somewhere in the interstices between fiction and confession, political analysis and philosophy, nature writing and travel literature lies the distinctive contribution of writers such as John McPhee, Edward Hoagland and Wendell Berry along with more acerbic and astringent outsiders like V.S. Naipaul. Such writing is the literary equivalent of baseball. It is deceptively relaxed, a leisurely but complex scrutiny of experience that aims at the establishment of a unique voice not a rigorous ideological or philosophical position. It depends on forging a bond of trust with

## IMPACTIO

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men is made up of the abbots and provincials of various Roman Catholic religious orders. On February 10, 1981, a day that they might have spent in prayer, the members of its national board met in Milwaukee for an "evaluation of CMSM structures based on the self-studies." Sounds familiar? And that's not all. A certain Sr. Mary Littell—how did she get into the act?—was "engaged as facilitator for the day." Here's how she did it, as reported to the assembled worthies in August. (Yes, even there we have a mole):

To facilitate the process, Sr. Mary utilized the Hoover Grid which begins with the recognition of purpose and values, leading to goals, objectives and finally to implementation. The first and most important step is at the myth level where the renewal of ideals, hopes, dreams and traditions takes place. It is the level of identity and purpose for being.

The advantage of this process is that it puts all the elements of an organization not into a flow chart which is static but into the flow of the organization which is constantly changing and dynamic. In the course of the process the board defined the following elements for evaluation:

The tasks of the board membership and the religious communities through them (the major superiors) is one of (1) animating (through clear identification); (2) facilitating (through acting out the goals and objectives); and (3) impacting (through actions on various levels of CMSM).

So now abideth animating, facilitating, and impacting, these three; but the greatest of these is impacting.

We know Educanto when we see it, and this report is full of it. It bristles with "linkage," "resourcing" (with "input" from "resource persons"), "networking," "sharing," "cross-cultural communications," and even offers

its own bold, innovative thrust in "ad hococracy," which is defined as "creation of task forces for proper resourcing." So where is the Inquisition, now that we need it?

Even the punctuation is typical of a writer who just can't be bothered with the meaning of what he writes. There is a difference between "the Hoover Grid which begins with the recognition of purpose" and "the Hoover Grid, which begins with the recognition of purpose." The first, which is what the writer has given us, implies the horrifying existence of other Hoover Grids beginning with other recognitions. The same confused inattentiveness causes "the myth level where renewal takes place," to be distinguished from the other myth levels; "a flow chart which is static"; and "the flow of the organization which is constantly changing." In that one we don't whether to be confused about the flow or the organization. Or both. Or neither.

But if we are confused, it is because we are paying attention. This kind of language, devised to give the tone of sophisticated substance to the obvious, the empty, and the banal, is always a dreary and disorderly exercise of robot-like inattentiveness. The writer's mind has no stake in it; he just wants to get out a report that sounds like a report. The report is exactly one of those "vain repetitions" of the heathen; it neither provides clear knowledge nor fosters finer understanding, except, of course, in the very few who will actually pay attention. And what they will understand will not be what the writer would have had in mind, if he had had anything in mind. Somewhere in the dark labyrinth of doctrinal elaboration, there must be a technical name for this nasty perversion of language and intellect. It's probably something like *Impactio*.

—R. Mitchell, *Underground Gramarian*

the reader rather than dazzling or always being "right." Golden has an honorable place in such a tradition.)

But all this is a lead-in to that day in the spring of 1963. Golden lived in a two-story, white frame house on the edge of downtown Charlotte. *The Israelite* was laid-out in the house, so several rooms were untidy as only lay-out areas can be. There was also, I believe, a secretary who answered the phone. Its constant ringing added to the sense of vital, hectic activity. Most of the downstairs rooms were jammed with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves from which errant papers and magazines overflowed. Even the john was lined with shelves.

There, in the center of what was once a living room, Harry Golden held court. He was a short, round man, a kind of Jewish Humpty-Dumpty whose feet barely reached the floor. He was en-

sconced in a rocker, beside which stood a small table piled high with books and papers. In the midst of this confusion were a bottle of bourbon, a half-filled glass and several cigars. And unlike the case with so many writers, Golden somehow sounded and looked just as you would have imagined from reading him. He cracked jokes, made sardonic comments on current idiocies and scoffed at the pompous and the respectable. He obviously had an ego as fully-developed as his stomach and loved every minute as a pundit. But his pronouncements were far from the mode of the syndicated big-shots. They were yeastier, less self-important.

I don't really remember anything he said that day nor am I sure how long we stayed. But I do remember leaving Golden's home dazzled and exhilarated. This was a world of books and writing that was neither austere academic nor schoolmarmish and genteel. Significantly, there was no separation between where Golden worked and where he lived, between how he worked and how he lived: it was a way of life. No one knows, I suppose, whether

Golden was happy or "fulfilled." He undoubtedly had his own demons to contend with; and had, it turned out, served time in the North for some sort of financial shenanigans. Nor was Golden any monument to unaging intellect. If we went back and read him now, he would probably seem hopelessly sentimental and soft-headed. He was in short no Mencken nor even I.F. Stone.

Still, that afternoon provided me a glimpse of the possibilities of a certain kind of life that I have never quite forgotten or been able to shake. I often think, even now, of Harry Golden when the pleasures of reading and writing make themselves felt. And I can just imagine him somewhere now, sitting in his rocker, sipping bourbon, smoking a marvelously smelly cigar and reading. Enjoy! Enjoy!

Richard King is a professor at the University of DC.

## TELEVISION COMES TO SAMOA

### Frank Viviano

Television's explosion into the American consciousness was something like the atomic bomb's—which preceded it by only a few years. One moment it was little more than a rumor. The next it was a pervasive, inescapable fact of life.

And also like the atomic bomb, television was transformed very rapidly from an almost magical answer to the nation's problems into a problem in its own right. By the time that transformation had been acknowledged, however, it was already too late for social scientists to determine accurately just what had happened.

But not everywhere, and decidedly not in places like American Samoa, where the TV age did not dawn until October 4, 1964. Even then, it arrived under unusual circumstances. Thanks to the steady lobbying of then Samoan Governor H. Rex Lee and the financial largesse of the Great Society Congress, public money was made available to install TV in Samoa in one dramatic burst of energy—and to devote it expressly to the education of the Samoan people.

Moreover, from the very first, Stanford University mass communications professors Lyle Nelson and Wilbur Schramm were involved in the project—provided with the opportunity to do in Samoa what had not been done on the U.S. mainland: carefully observe and record television's effects, educational and otherwise.

Lee had found the school system of Samoa in a shambles when his term began in 1961. The students met in huts, none of the teachers had teaching certificates, and the few with high school diplomas scored on a fifth grade level on academic achievement tests. In 1960, the U.S. government had only spent \$50 per pupil on education in Samoa. To rectify that situation, the new governor envisioned a revolution based on a "bold experiment," as Nelson puts it. His intention was to remake the Samoan educational system from the ground up, using television to solve the dilemmas of limited personnel, generally poor reading and language skills, and a population living in 26 villages on six islands, with only intermittent transportation services, spread over 600 miles of the South Pacific.

Lee moved with extraordinary speed to implement that experiment. By 1967 80 percent of Samoa's school-age children were spending be-

tween one-fourth and one-third of their class time watching TV, transmitted by a Samoan educational network which at the peak of its activity produced an astonishing 6,000 programs per year.

Now, nearly 17 years after the broadcasts began, Shramm, Nelson and Samoan educator Mere Bentham have published their assessment of television's impact on Samoa, in a book which sheds light on TV's effects everywhere. The book, *Bold Experiment*, alternately confirms our hopes for—and deepest fears of—the omnipresent glowing box in the global living room. In effect, a revolution did occur in Samoa, but not the one intended.

Four years after the program began, for instance, a spot check revealed that TV-equipped students scored twice as high on English fundamentals as those without TV. What that achievement also dramatized, however, was a bias in the entire system toward the English language and the culture it represented, a bias which has had far reaching effects on Samoan life. In mathematical reasoning, student performance actually fell between 1954 and 1970, pro-

gress in other areas was minimal, and mean overall scores for eighth graders showed almost no improvement after 1970, when the period of TV's dramatic initial impact had waned. But the language habits of the Samoan young had been changed forever, along with their perception of their own culture.

Compared with teenagers in independent Western Samoa, who lived beyond the range of the TV transmitters and still followed the age-old Samoan ways, a 1977 study found that the American Samoan young had less respect for their families, less respect for traditional authority, held less conservative values and were more independent.

One prominent by-product of that difference is reflected in the fact that 50 percent of American Samoan high school graduates were, by the end of the '70s, emigrating to the mainland United States. Less than two decades after the introduction of TV, the deep social bonds of traditional Samoan life had been decisively broken, with television acting as the primary catalyst for unprecedented changes.

Among other things, educational TV had



opened the doors to commercial TV, as well as improvements in English grammar and syntax. Once congressional funding had erected a huge transmitting tower on a mountain-top beside Pago Pago Bay, the way was clear for an invasion by the U.S. networks, at no cost to the invaders.

So it was that in 1976 a survey of a representative sample of the Samoan population—93 percent of whom now had access to TV—disclosed an addiction to certain commercial programs which makes mainland viewing habits seem benign by comparison. The survey indicated that 87 percent of all Samoans watched "Police Woman;" 83 percent tuned into "Sanford and Son;" and approximately 70 percent were glued to their sets for "Police Story," "Little House on the Prairie," "Van Dyke and Company," and "Baa Baa Black Sheep." In short, vast numbers of Samoans now devoted significant amounts of time to television programs unrelated to the realities of Samoan life.

And the price, Nelson, Schramm and Ben-



tham believe, was paid in "family conversation...village talk...social events, like the singing, dancing, and feasting traditionally associated with the South Pacific."

Another price will be familiar to mainland Americans: Soon Samoans began purchasing heavily-advertised brand name items. A merchant in Apia, Western Samoa, which the Pago Pago transmitter could reach, told a *Los Angeles Times* reporter that TV was responsi-

ble for a tremendous improvement in his business, including sales of Pepto Bismal, Bufferin, Nyquil, and Sominex, which had barely sold at all before TV.

In the meantime, educational programming, which was the reason for introducing TV in the first place, had been vastly scaled down. Today, the school system which once produced 6,000 programs annually is responsible for just one series of 40 minute lessons—in English language skills.

Samoa's experience with TV, say the authors, is more than a simple cautionary note against television. "Television alone isn't necessarily a bad thing," Nelson said in an interview, "if the people who view it maintain real control over it; if they are actually producing most of the programs themselves."

But when the power of mass communications is unleashed on a traditional society in the service of alien ideas and cultural values, modernization may prove devastating.

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**ALLEY LIFE IN WASHINGTON:** Family, Community, Religion and Folklife in the City, 1850-1970. By James Borchert. Borchert challenges conventional wisdom that the impact of the city led to the breakdown of migrants' social institutions. Borchert shows how Washington's alley dwellers adapted patterns that permitted continuity and survival in an often harsh environment. The male-headed nuclear family composed the fundamental unit in this urban subculture, but extended families, kinship networks, alley communities, and folk and religious traditions continued to provide coherence and to help alley dwellers cope with the rigors of everyday life. Forgoing outside assistance, these self-reliant people adjusted to their limited incomes and tiny quarters by using folk cures, remedies, and food sources, as well as by devising ingenious furniture. These crowded but isolated and homogeneous populations were able to shape close-knit communities, with social hierarchies which administered aid and comfort to the needy, but which also punished transgressors. This book is being sold by the Gazette at 20% off list price. \$14.80.

# LIFE & RELATED SUBJECTS

Today's Scientific Question is: Just what the heck is Life, anyway? And where does it come from? I mean, you know?

Answer: Ancient Man tried for thousands of years to explain Life. Ancient Man would do anything to avoid honest work. Ancient Woman would yell at him: "Don't forget to make pointed stones to stab the saber-tooth tiger with" or "Don't forget to migrate to North America" and he would say "I can't right now, dear, I'm trying to explain Life."

Over the years, Man came up with many explanations for Life, all of them stupid. In fact, when you get right down to it, almost every explanation Man came up with for *anything* until about 1926 was stupid. I bet kids would be able to get from kindergarten through high school in about 35 minutes if we stopped making them memorize all the drivel Ancient Man came up with about the gods and goddesses and why the moon goes through phases and so on.

Anyway, Modern Science, using all the sophisticated analytical tools at

its disposal, has discarded all the myths and come up with a definition that covers *all* forms of Life:

**Life is anything that dies when you stomp on it.**

By this definition, the amoeba, the mango, the frog, the squirrel, the bear, the begonia and many lawyers are forms of Life. But this just begs the question: Where does Life come from? And how can the mango, which clearly has some value, be related to the lawyer?

Modern Scientists explain all this with the Theory of Evolution. They say that at one time the Earth was nothing but a bunch of slime and ooze, sort of like Bayonne, New Jersey. Then lightning struck some chemicals and formed one-celled creatures (am I going too fast here?), which floated around for several million years until the smart ones decided to organize the dumb ones into higher forms of life:

**SMART CELLS: What do you say we evolve into a higher form of life?**

**DUMB CELLS: Sounds good to us.**

**SMART CELLS: Fine. We'll be the brain. You be the sphincter.**

And so they crawled out on land. Then they started adapting to the environment, according to the law of The Survival of the Fittest. For example, if the climate was very hot, the animals without air conditioning died. If the climate had daytime television, the animals without small brains died. And so on.

\* \* \* \* \*

Life as we know it today falls into two categories: Plants and Animals. Plants are divided into three subcategories: Green Vegetables, Yellow Vegetables and Weeds. Animals are divided into six subcategories:

**• Animals You Can Eat:** cows, turkeys, porks, bolognas, veals, zucchinis, tuna fish.

**• Animals You Can Sit On:** horses, certain turtles.

**• Animals That Can Knock Over Your Car:** rhinoceroses, soccer fans.

**• Totally Useless Animals That Would Have Ceased to Exist Thousands of Years Ago If Not For Greedy Pet-Store Owners Who Prey on Unsuspecting 8-Year-Olds: hamsters, gerbils.**

**• Animals That Are Easily Impressed: dogs.**

**• Animals Whose Sole Goal In Life Is To Wait At The Bottom Of Sleeping Bags and Sting Or Bite People To Death: scorpions, snakes.**

**• Animals That Are Not Easily Impressed: cats.**

You'll notice this list does not include insects. This is because insects are *not* animals: Insects are *insects*, and their sole reason for existing is to be sprayed by poisonous substances from aerosol cans. Oh, I know you've heard a lot of ecology-nut talk about how you shouldn't kill insects because they're part of the Great Chain of Life and birds eat them and so on, but I say go ahead and kill them. If necessary, we can do without birds, too.

[Feature Associates]

**Dave Barry**

## INNOCENT BYSTANDER

**Arthur Hoppe**

### A Mythical Beast

I was cautiously making my way through the murky maze of The Haunted Pentagon, sword in hand, seeking without much hope some small glimmer of sanity, when an incredibly awesome, winged apparition loomed across my path.

"Prepare to die, strange beast!" I cried, drawing back my sword to strike.

"Oh, don't be stupid, stupid," said the creature with a yawn. "I'm The B-1 Bomber."

My sword arm fell to my side and I confess my knees began to tremble. "I thought... I thought Jimmy Carter had slain you stone cold dead back in 1977," I managed to say.

"Yes, he thought so, too," said this Lazarus, preening its silvery scales. "But you know how it is: We old weapons systems never die."

"You just fade away?" I inquired.

"No."

I frowned. "I guess that's right," I finally said. "For I did see where the bayonet is making a comeback. But what is it you do when we kill you?"

The apparition smiled a sly, smug smile. "We grow," it said.

It was only too happy to explain this curious phenomenon. "When I was born back in 1969," it began, "I was an adorable, little thing, weighing only \$2.2 billion. But—would you believe it?—there were those even then who said I was too big, too ugly and would eat them out of house and home."

"And they tried to kill you?"

"Many times. Naturally, my feelings were hurt. I hid behind an outpouring of magical gobbledegook and for years was all but forgotten. I bided my time, nurturing myself on design changes and inflation, and when I leaped out upon my foes in 1977, I tipped the scales at \$9 billion!"

"A fourfold increase. Amazing!"

"It was nothing. After Carter drove that silver stake through my heart, I really went to work. Today, only four years later, I am a hale and hearty \$40 billion."

"Incredible! And what can a \$40 billion beast like you do?"

The creature actually saluted. "Just say the word

and I shall begin as early as 1986, if I'm on schedule, to make the world safe for democracy."

"For ever and ever?" I asked.

"Don't be silly," it said. "My Godfather, Cap Weinberger, says I'll be obsolete by 1990. Here's to a short life and a merry one."

The thought of enlisting a \$40 billion creature with a life span of less than 48 months so infuriated me that I angrily drew back my sword again to strike.

The mad bomber looked at me with contempt. "You kill me one more time, Mac," it snarled, "and I'll bankrupt you!"

I fled in terror from the scene. I must find some sane person who will coolly and rationally save us all from this insatiable monster which will inevitably gobble up...

No, it's no use. What sane person would ever believe a crazy fairy tale like this one?

### Bootstraps for All

No businessman is more ebullient these days than Milton Haberdash, the bootstrap tycoon.

Bootstraps had gone somewhat out of fashion during recent administrations. Ever since his election, however, President Reagan has been actively promoting bootstraps as the best possible tool for the nation's 24 million poor to lift themselves up out of the depths of poverty.

Not only that, but Mr. Reagan went to Mexico to convince Third World leaders that what their people also needed were good old-fashioned American bootstraps and not a bunch of loans and grants and complicated stuff like that.

Haberdash, a man of action, has already been off to test this vast, untapped overseas bootstrap market. One of the first potential customers he ran into was an elderly gentleman, Mr. Tupoor Tuweet, in the marketplace of Abbadabbadu.

"Here you are, Mr. Tuweet," said Haberdash, opening his sample case. "Have a pair of these genuine top-grain cowhide bootstraps with which to pull yourself up."

Tuweet examined them closely. "And how do I pull myself up by my bootstraps?" he asked.

"Frankly," admitted Haberdash, "it's not as easy as it sounds. But we'll help you. First, we'll cut off funds for the Abbadabbadu Irrigation Project which was to have converted 10,000 acres of arid desert into a banana yogurt plantation."

"That's a help?" asked Tuweet.

"You bet," said Haberdash. "We have to get our government off your back or you'll never be able to lift yourself up. That's simple American know-how. But it's up to you to pull yourself together by tightening your belt."

"What's a belt?"

"That piece of rope around your waist will do. Then we'll have to trim off your fat."

"My what?"

"Can't lift yourself up if you're too fat. Any fool can see that. I think the best way to do it would be to cut down on your school lunch program. What would you say to a simple tofu sandwich with catsup and relish?"

"Hot dog!"

"That's the spirit, Mr. Tuweet. Now, our president has promised we Americans will get just as rich as we can so that we'll be able to trickle down on you and thereby give you a much needed lift. But in the final analysis, he says, it's up to you. You must have faith not in our help, he says, but in 'the magic of the marketplace.'

Tuweet gloomily surveyed the two mangy goats and six withered casabas that constituted the Abbadabbadu marketplace. "I'll try," he said.

With such encouragement, Haberdash returned home filled with confidence. "When it comes to International Operation Bootstrap," he said, "there is but one teensy fly in the ointment: I couldn't find any customers who wore shoes."

Even so, he said, Tuweet, himself, demonstrated a pressing need in Third World countries for American bootstraps. "Yes," reported Haberdash, "he ate them."

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## THE GAZETTE BOOKSHELF

### NEWLY ARRIVED!

**THE ESSENTIAL EARTHTMAN:** Henry Mitchell on Gardening. This is not just another book on gardening but the thoughts of an enthusiast who comes to the subject with reverence, passion, humor and a sober knowledge of human frailty. The Essential Earthman believes, for example, "a lawn 17 by 20 feet is just fine, if you think a lawnless life is not worth living \*\*\* But I suspect many gardeners would do well to think of something besides grass and the little noisy juggernauts you cut with." This is a collection of many of Mitchell's most popular pieces from the Washington Post. \$12.95

**CHESAPEAKE:** James A. Michener. This is, of course, the book that was the first work of fiction in ten years to make it to the number one spot in the New York Times's best seller list. But its subject matter gives it even greater appeal to those in the Washington area. A fine novel and a way to learn more about our bay. \$3.95

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# AMERICAN JOURNAL

Jovan, Inc. came to town recently with two concerts that drew 65,000 people each, and they did it with just two guitars, bass, drums and a skinny lead singer. The Anheuser-Busch Corp. opened the show, fielding a basic unit that featured only one guitar, bass and drums. Fans shelled out \$17.50 per ticket to see the stars.

No, pursed-lipped accountants juggling dry martinis didn't cavort across the stage. And, no, there weren't chorus lines of dancing brewmasters up there. The concerts starred the Rolling Stones and George Thorogood as part of their 25-city, nationwide tour. And the corporate involvement wasn't musical, but financial. Jovan, manufacturer of men's colognes, underwrote the Stones' expenses, and Anheuser-Busch, brewers of Budweiser and other beers, sponsored Thorogood.

It used to be that only TV and radio shows had sponsors. Now, as shown by the Stones extravaganza, concerts do, too. I suppose the scale of today's stadium-rock and the soaring expenses of mounting a world-class tour have made corporate underwriting inevitable. In the process, popular music's status as just another commodity has been underscored in black ink. Ironically, the more popular pop—and especially rock—gets, the tighter the elitist control of rock becomes, for only corporate powers have the clout to operate in a mass market.

Pop mythology makes much of rock and roll's rebellious qualities—and the word revolution was even bandied about there for a while, wasn't it?—but rock rebellion is more of a posture than a reality. This is as true for a politicized group like the Clash, who operate wholly within the business world to record and distribute their message of rock-and-revolt, as for the Rolling Stones, whose rebelliousness is confined to songs about cars, chicks and

drugs—hardly virgin territory for 40-year-old musicians.

There are many glamorous media that extoll rock as an emotional, sensual and mystical liberating force, but only one book that I know of analyzes the political economy of the music. That is Steve Chapple and Reebee Garofalo's *Rock 'n' Roll Is Here to Pay*, a tome that is somewhat dated now, but still informative. By tracing the rise of rock from scratchy 45s to Dolby sound systems, Chapple and Garofalo show just how thoroughly rock has come under the thumb of corporate power.

George Thorogood is a case in point. When I first wrote about him in 1977, Thorogood was recording for a small, independent label called Rounder Records, and plying his trade in clubs. The first time I saw him perform, there were maybe 100 people in a jam-packed neighborhood hangout. Thorogood played for hours, laughing and talking with the crowd, swilling beer at the bar and just generally having a fine time. When the last guitar chord bounded off the sweating walls, Thorogood donated the proceeds to striking homeworkers. Now he's playing giant ballparks, recording for a giant label and plugging Bud on the radio, invoking the image of a good-time bar band, and the memory of what used to be.

The point is not that George Thorogood is a nasty fellow who deserves to starve and play in telephone booths, but that his story is a microcosm of the de-

velopment of rock itself. Rock is forever offering up populist innocents like Thorogood who start off as part of a community of equals, and end up (if they're successful) selling, from a distance, what they used to do for fun. Thorogood's path was trod a few years earlier by a bar band favorite named Bruce Springsteen, and a few years before that by the Rolling Stones, when they were the house band at London's Crawdaddy Club. It will be ever thus, as long as music is a commodity.

As for the Stones, they are a long way, financially and artistically, from the Crawdaddy. I didn't attend their local concerts, but I did tune in to parts of a lengthly broadcast by a radio station that played most of their singles and albums in chronological order. In reviewing the Rolling Stones hit parade, two things struck me as particularly noteworthy.

One was the unmistakable decline in the quality of their music. The band is still capable of cranking out bright singles, like their current hit, "Start Me Up," but they've lost the knack of sustaining the urgent, gutbucket sound that used to be their trademark. The second thing that struck me was the identity of Jovan's co-sponsor for the broadcast: the U.S. Navy. The supposed menace of "Street Fighting Man" didn't seem to be shivering Uncle Sam's timbers a bit.

From the concert reports I heard and read, the Stones opened with "Under My Thumb," the number most often cited by women's groups as evidence of the band's misogyny, and closed by grossing a reported \$2 million for their two days' work. If—as rock songs endlessly proclaim—rock and roll will never die, thanks may be due to the artificial life support system with which the corporate world is keeping rock's bloated body alive.

## DAVID ARMSTRONG

# CHARLES McDOWELL

"Maybe you can tell me," I said to the Californian, "why on earth Maureen Reagan thinks she is qualified to run for the United States Senate."

"Her father is president of the United States," the Californian said.

"Does that pass for a qualification in California?" I asked.

"It might. Actually, it hasn't been tested thoroughly. We haven't had any real experience in California with paternal presidents. But we'll be watching her progress closely, particularly against Barry Goldwater Jr."

"He's running for the Senate, too?"

"Yes. His father was defeated for president, of course, but has been a national institution for a long time. That puts Barry Jr. in a position to challenge Jerry Brown for the Senate on pretty even terms."

"Jerry Brown's father, Pat, was governor of California -- I know that," I said. "But Jerry Brown has been governor himself and has a record."

"That's his problem," the Californian said. "Barry Jr. has been in the House for a few terms, and he has a record to cope with, too. At least Maureen comes to politics fresh," the Californian said.

"That's an advantage in California?"

"It can be. Some of us were hoping Jack Ford, the son of President Ford, would bring his clean record into the Senate race, too."

"But Jack Ford balked at running for the Senate on his father's name, didn't he?"

"Yes, Jack's running for state controller."

"But that's an important state office for a beginner in politics," I said.

"Some start lower, true," the Californian said. "Tom Hayden, Jane Fonda's husband is running for a state assembly seat. He'll probably come up against Carey Peck, Gregory Peck's boy. But our tradition in California doesn't really require you to start at the bottom."

"Maureen Reagan seems to understand that, anyway."

"She's her father's daughter. Ronald Reagan started by running for governor, remember. Mike Curb, our current lieutenant

governor, ran for the job straight out of the recording business and television. Sam Hayakawa, the senator Maureen wants to succeed, got to the Senate by being president of San Francisco State College and getting a lot of television exposure resisting student protests."

"So you're saying being somebody's son or daughter isn't absolutely necessary to succeed in Californian politics."

"Not if you're somebody on your own -- just so you're established in the media. Take this Senate race we're talking about for instance. Besides Jerry and Barry Jr. and Maureen and old Sam himself, we've got a mayor and two congressmen who are really good on the tube," the Californian said.

"Do these conventional politicians have a chance?"

"Sure. Keep an eye on Congressman Robert Dornan. He's not only in his third term in the House but he used to be one of the most popular talk show hosts in Los Angeles. Also, his uncle, Jack Haley, was the tin woodsman in 'Wizard of Oz.'"

"I have to tell you," I said to the Californian, "I'm not comfortable with the politics of celebrity. The remarkable power of famous names in the media age is going to be difficult for traditionalists to get used to."

"Oh, it's not so hard. Ohio is getting used to John Glenn, and may run him for president. New Mexico has adjusted to the other Senate astronaut, Harrison Schmitt. West Virginia is pretty high on Governor Jay Rockefeller, and in New York the old quarterback, Congressman Jack Kemp, is headed for the hall of fame of supply side economics. And your own Virginia, of course, has reached the point that it takes celebrity politics for granted, I assume," the Californian said.

"How can you say that?" I said.

"By being from California and not having any hypocritical hangups about the power of famous names," he said. "Let's see. Your senior senator is the son of your most famous political leader in this century. Your junior senator came out of nowhere after he married our own Elizabeth Taylor. Your governor is the son of a gubernatorial candidate. Your governor-elect is the son-in-law of a president of the United States. Yes, in California, when we think of celebrity politics, old Virginia makes us humble."

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§ THE WEATHER REPORTS §

Apple Pie.....	2
Who Cares About the Family?: John McKnight.....	3
The Press: Bob Alperin.....	4
Inside Graterford: Chuck Stone.....	5
On Harry Golden: Richard King.....	18
Television Comes to Samoa: Frank Viviano.....	19
Life & Related Subjects: Dave Barry.....	21
Innocent Bystander: Arthur Hoppe.....	21
American Journal: David Armstrong.....	23
Charles McDowell.....	23

§ THE CITY §

City Desk.....	7
1981 Election Results.....	9
DC Eye: Sam Smith.....	9
Alternatives to Closing Schools: Frank Shaffer-Corona.....	11
Fifteen Years Ago.....	12
City Log.....	13
Bulletin Board.....	14

§ THE REGIONS §

Naming the Area: Leon A. LeBuffe, Jr.....	15
The Importance of Federal Bargaining: Irving Richter.....	16
The Idea Mill.....	16
Archihorse.....	17
Regional Notes.....	17